

SOCCER

WEEKLY

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ALAN DAVIDSON

CALL FOR BAN ON BRITISH!

'DECLARE WAR' SAYS WORLD CUP COACH

NOON IS LIONS MAN

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

HARRY NOON, who has coached Ku-ring-gai in the NSW State League for the last three years, has been appointed coach of Brisbane Lions.

The Lions committee chose Noon ahead of more fancied candidate, Polish coach Jerzy Wrzos.

Noon has enjoyed a successful stint with Ku-ring-gai, taking them from Second Division to fifth in First Division.

Harry Noon was ecstatic with his appointment.

"It's a tremendous set-up at Brisbane Lions," he said.



HARRY NOON

THE refusal by the British Government to allow Alan Davidson to play for Arsenal in England's first division has angered many people in Australian Soccer.

Nobody is more upset than former World Cup coach, Rale Rasic, who had Davidson in his South Melbourne squad last year.

"The refusal to give Davidson a work permit is

an insult to Australia," said an angry Rasic.

BY DAVID JACK

"It is time for the Australian Soccer Federation, or even the Australian Government, to hit back.

"This could be done very easily. We should immediately slap a ban on

all British players coming to Australia.

"For too long, Australia has imported players from the UK, with few restrictions placed on them. Some of them couldn't trap a ball or pass it a few yards accurately.

"If Britain can slam the door on Australian play-

ers, surely Australia should reciprocate.

"We are all members of the same Commonwealth of nations and the traffic in Soccer talent cannot be in one direction," added Rasic.

The ban on Davidson is not the first time an Australian player has been

'DAVIDSON BAN AN INSULT'

deprived of the opportunity of earning a Soccer living in Britain.

A year ago, George Christopoulos had trials with Newcastle United in the English second division. Newcastle wanted to sign him and the boy was keen to join them. But he, too, could not get a work permit.

Newcastle even took the case to the House of Commons but still Christopoulos was refused permission to play.

With Alan Davidson, the snub is even more serious. The South Melbourne defender could have signed for Bayern Munich before going to Arsenal but, because of language difficulties, he turned down the West German club in favour of Arsenal.

So Davidson has fallen between two stools and his hopes of playing as a full-time professional with a top European club have been shattered.

"The committee and directors are giving me every opportunity to succeed and have displayed great faith in me."

So much faith that Lions have given Noon a two-year contract with a one-year option.

Noon leaves for Brisbane tomorrow (Wednesday) to take over the side for their game against Ipswich in a local cup competition.

—Cont page 3

CLUB BOSS ANGRY: P3

EDITORIAL

JOHN CONSTANTINE, the new president of the NSW Soccer Federation, will need all his administrative skill to guide the State League successfully through the 1984 season.

Competition from the rival National League would appear to be strong enough to completely swamp the State League.

There are 12 teams in the NSW-based division of the National League and most operate out of Sydney.

Assuming the NSL standard is better than anything the State League can offer, the games in the national competition are certain to claim most of the available spectator support.

Not only will the NSL attract most of the fans, it will also grab the cream of the playing talent.

In other words, John Constantine could hardly have chosen a more difficult time to take over the helm of the State Soccer ship.

ASW believes the State League can survive, but State clubs will have to face reality and accept that, as from now, they cannot compete financially with their big brothers from the NSL.

No matter how much they resent it, State League teams will become nurseries for the national clubs. Young players will be able to pick up valuable experience playing in State Federation competitions and, providing they progress, the boys will then move up to the NSL.

Why not make the State League, in the main, an amateur competition?

There will be little money, anyway, for clubs to lavish on players. You need good crowds to bring in gate receipts and, without gate receipts, how will clubs be able to pay even semi-professionals?

Yet, despite these unpalatable facts, be sure some clubs in the State League will still try to buy "name" players and make unrealistic match payments. Keeping up with the Jones's may still prevail.

Class distinction has arrived. The top teams have been segregated from the strugglers. If all clubs accept this situation, perhaps John Constantine's task as State president will not turn out to be the fearsome assignment it appears.

■ ■ ■

The National League kicks off in less than a month — and we are still stuck with those ghastly names for the divisions.

ASW appeals to the NSL management to forget all the nonsense about a National Conference and an Australian Conference.

We suspect the names were inflicted on the NSL by the marketing people. In the next month, there is still time to replace the "Conferences" with "Divisions."

Imagine how people in Britain would react if the English First Division became the "British Conference" and the Scottish Premier Division called itself the "National Conference".

It is too ridiculous to even merit consideration.

Yet that's what is about to happen in Australian Soccer... unless the rulers of the NSL belatedly see the folly of the names game.

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HOGG REJOINS ARROWS

BY BERNIE HARRIS

STEVE HOGG is back with Canberra Arrows following agreement between his former club, Brisbane Lions, and Arrows coach Doug Collins on a transfer fee.

Hogg was originally part of a proposal for the two clubs to swap players — Hogg and striker Tony Brennan — following his appointment to a job in the ACT.

But Brennan's refusal to become part of the deal and his desire to see out the remaining year of his Arrows contract threw a spanner in the works.

Lions set a transfer fee of \$15,000 on Hogg — a not unrealistic sum considering the representative honours gained by the player, plus the fact that with his studies behind him Hogg should be able to devote more time to a promising career.

Negotiations, offers and counter-offers flowed between Canberra and Brisbane before the final fee was set. The amount is understood to be \$9,500.

Collins was unstinting in his praise of the attitude of the Lions officials.

"They understood that

Steve wanted to play here, following his transfer, and they did not stand in his way, once an offer acceptable to both sides was made."

Collins added that Lions' attitude was in stark contrast to the problems he was having in negotiating an acceptable transfer fee for Tommy Sermanni from Marconi.

"The club originally put \$20,000 on him and he has appealed against that fee. I have offered \$8,500 and Marconi in discussions has reduced the fee to \$13,000. Sermanni's appeal has been put back for a couple of weeks in the hope that the clubs can reach agreement."

ASW understands that Marconi claims that it will cost about \$15,000 to replace Sermanni. Collins agrees that it probably will, but that, in his view, is not a valid argument when balanced against the fact that he secured Sermanni for about

COLLINS TRIES TO BALANCE BOOKS

\$4,500 for Marconi when he coached the team last season.

Sermanni and Frank Farina and now the only players outstanding from those Collins announced he wished to acquire for the Arrows.

Collins sold midfielder Gary Byrne to Blacktown for \$12,500. Because the Arrows were unable to find Byrne acceptable employment in the computer industry last season, the classy midfielder sat out the season, receiving payment in accordance with his contract.

Nippy striker cum midfielder Don MacLaren went to Sunshine-George Cross for \$8,500, whilst a deal may yet be done with Heidelberg which is interested in New Zealand

international midfielder Duncan Cole and defender Angelo Ambrosino.

Ambrosino is also the centre of attention from NSW State League team Inter-Monaro, which is also now talking about gaining defender John Walsh and "retired" goalkeeper Steve Hoszowski.

Collins may be in-

terested in signing striker Alan Reis who was transferred by former coach George Murray to the NSW outfit.

But the Arrows biggest profit on the transfer market is the likely purchase of midfielder George Christopoulos by premier Greek club, AEK Athens.

Christopoulos went to trial with AEK in November and in December agreement was reached for Christopoulos to play on loan with the club until the end of the current season, about June, for a fee of \$10,000.

The understanding with the club is that at the end of the Greek season a decision will be made whether Christopoulos is to be signed to a permanent contract.



□ GEORGE CHRISTOPOULOS

TRANSFER ROW OVER DUNN

A RUMBLING row could explode before investigations are completed into the transfer of West Adelaide centre-back Robbie Dunn.

With a \$25,000 transfer fee on his head, Dunn used a clause in his contract to move to Perth for \$3,000, and within a day had secured a clearance back to SA State League club Azzurri.

He then said he was posed to negotiate with Preston or Marconi.

Azzurri coach Frank Schaper said he would not

stand in Dunn's way if he wanted to return to the NSL after the current Ampol Cup night series.

BY TOM MCKAIN

But as we went to press several points had been raised about the deal.

A player signed for the Ampol Cup must stay with that club for six months. This rule was brought in to stop clubs using "guest" players.

West claim that if Dunn goes interstate to an NSL club then they must receive the full amount they have asked for him — or what the NSL says he is worth following the player's appeal against the \$25,000.

It is claimed the Dunn transfer did not go through the ASF.

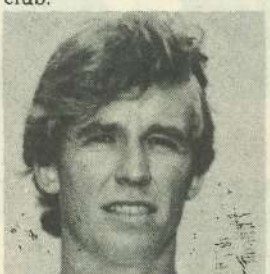
SA Federation secretary Mr Peter Nioch knew nothing about the transfer, as it was done by office staff and Azzurri secretary Mr Ted Iuliano, who is also a member of the Federation Board.

The Bayswater club which — on paper — signed Dunn then transferred him to Azzurri, will

come under fire with a protest from the SA Federation.

There were suggestions that Azzurri, Dunn and Mr Iuliano could be suspended.

Mr Iuliano, who is a solicitor, claims that Azzurri were interested in Dunn only as a player for them, and not as part of any move to get him a release to another NSL club.



□ ROBBIE DUNN

And he claims there was nothing illegal in the transfer deal as it stuck strictly to the contract conditions.

West officials claim differently.

Whatever happens, it again proves that it seems impossible for anyone to draw up a contract which is airtight.



□ STEVE HOGG

KOUDAS MAY COME TO CANTERBURY

BY MIKE MYSTAKIDIS

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE Olympic is negotiating to bring one of the biggest Greek stars to Sydney as a guest player for six weeks.

The player is George Koudas, international midfielder of PAOK Salonica.

Koudas, idol of hundreds of thousands of Soccer fans in and out of Greece, is regarded by experts in his country as being one of the best players ever produced in Greek Soccer.

Canterbury-Marrickville vice-president, Mr Chris Papapetrou, is currently in touch with the player and his club PAOK.

When I asked coach John Xipolitis about the Greek star he said: "My young players are very lucky because they will learn a lot playing alongside George Koudas."

Koudas is the second greatest Greek Soccer star after Mimis Domazos.

Last year, after more than 500 games for PAOK, he decided to finish

his career, but was forced by his club to continue playing for another year.

And that means that

Koudas' games in Australia may be his last before hanging up his boots.



□ GEORGE KOUDAS: star

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ARROWS' CHIEF IS ANGRY

CHARLES PERKINS, Canberra Arrows president, exploded with anger this week when he made his feelings known that he and his Club are dissatisfied with telecast arrangements, agreed to by the NSL Management Committee and Commercial Manager, Peter Sheean.

BY JOHN ECONOMOS



So hostile was Mr Perkins, that he immediately bounced out a five-paragraph telegram to all clubs in the NSL, expressing his angry feelings on behalf of the Board of Directors of Canberra Arrows.

Charles Perkins is a most astute administrator, holding a powerful Federal Government position.

He is a rare species among Australian Soccer club administrators having PLAYED first division Soccer.

Perkins is nobody's fool; as well as being possessed with a passion for the code, he has the intelligence and experience not to be conned by wishy-washy arrangements which could prove unsatisfactory to most NSL clubs.

In fact, Perkins believes, to the detriment of most NSL clubs, that the Management Committee has agreed a deal with Sheean which still had not been notified to the clubs.

The deal concerns tele-

cast arrangements for 0-28's "Match of The Day" programme for the 1984 Season.

Four venues only have been selected to telecast matches:—

In Sydney, Marconi and St George Stadiums, and in Melbourne, Middle Park and Olympic Park.

Reason given was that they were the only sites suitable and equipped for television.

These arrangements could be to the financial detriment of most clubs in the NSL, with the excep-

tion of Marconi, St George, South Melbourne and possibly Heidelberg United.

Televising of club matches is valuable to clubs, which sell ground advertising and raise sponsorship funds.

If clubs are to be faced with restrictions on television exposure, their efforts to sell advertising at their grounds will automatically be restricted and confined to only a select few clubs.

Perkins' telegram to NSL clubs, reads:—

CANBERRA ARROWS Soccer club Board of Directors, have decided to contact all NSL Clubs to express their deep concern regarding proposed arrangements for the forthcoming season.

The Board believes that:

1. The "Match of The Day" arrangements will give distinct advantage to only a limited number of clubs and in fact, will in the long term be to the financial detriment of most clubs in the NSL.
2. The television coverage

as proposed will once again be limited to only selected grounds and will not benefit the majority of NSL clubs.

3. Our Board has not yet viewed any contract signed with either West Nally or Peter Sheean and believe that these contracts should be seen by all clubs before the season begins. We believe the Management Committee has signed contracts beyond their authority.

4. We believe strongly that an executive meeting

of the Council of Clubs should be called to discuss these matters as it seems we are all committed for the next four years to arrangements that could prove financially disadvantageous to most clubs outside of a selected few. The country team clubs like Wollongong, Newcastle, Brisbane, Adelaide and Canberra are in a particularly bad position and will receive no benefits of any significance from any arrangements. Charles Perkins, president, Canberra Arrows.

SHOULDER IS YOUTH COACH

BY BERNIE HARRIS

JIMMY SHOULDER is the new Australian Youth coach.

That is the announcement to be made by Australian Soccer Federation president Sir Arthur George and Minister for Sport and Tourism Mr John Brown at a special function in Canberra today (Tuesday).

Shoulder replaces Les Scheinflug as national Youth team coach, a position the current full national coach has filled with distinction for the past three years.

The change is part of the transformation that occurs due to the fact that national coach is no longer a full-time position.

Shoulder's appointment is tied in with his position as Soccer director at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra.

AIS scholarship holders for 1984 will form the basis of the Youth squad for Australia's next tilt at the World Youth Championship.

They will be complemented by four or five others who, because of work or study commitments, were unable to accept invitations to the AIS.

O'CONNOR CHALLENGE

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

INTERNATIONAL forward Phil O'Connor has developed a nasty habit in his career.

And that habit is mercilessly beating defenders and goalkeepers.

Renowned for his wizardry, O'Connor, 32, has been given a new lease of life by Heidelberg.

He has signed a two-year contract with Victoria's most successful National League club and he is looking forward to playing in Melbourne. "I am thrilled," he said.

"It is a new challenge and I am ready to make the best of it.

"I know what Heidelberg supporters are expecting of me and I will do my best not to let them down," he said.

Asked about the reasons for leaving Wollongong, O'Connor replied:

"Wollongong City are struggling financially and I could not see any

future for myself there. I considered all options opened to me, but none of them was satisfactory. Heidelberg came through with the right offer and I decided to make the move."

O'Connor will be making his debut on Friday night, when Heidelberg will line up against Melbourne Croatia for the most crucial game of the Buffalo Gold Cup.

Heidelberg have paid big money for the acquisition of his services.

According to reliable sources the combined transfer fee and sign-on fee figure is around the \$30,000 mark.

Heidelberg United coach Brian Garvey will need to find a striking partner for O'Connor as Gary Cole has refused to consider going back.

"The player has a very good record as a forward and I expect him to score well," said Garvey of O'Connor.



PHIL O'CONNOR

MARCONI READY FOR OLYMPIC

MARCONI will play Sydney Olympic, the NSL's 1983 Cup Winners, in a 'friendly-exhibition' match tomorrow (Wednesday) night at Marconi Stadium, kick-off 7.30.

Marconi who finished ninth last season in the NSL, with 38 points, is



DAVID LOWE

determined to shoot for honours in 1984 under the new management of national coach, Les Scheinflug.

David Lowe, the new striker from Newcastle KB, will link up with English central striker, Steve Winn and Rod Brown, to form one of the NSL's most powerful three-pronged strike-lines.

Winn, recently returned from a holiday in England, displayed signs of his goal-hunger last Friday night in Marconi's Ampol Cup clash with Sutherland, when he scored just 32 seconds after kick-off from almost 40 metres. Winn followed up this 'early-scalp' with another spectacular goal which he nailed on the target with an overhead kick.

Sydney Olympic will be without their giant goalkeeper, Gary Meier, who misses this match because of a broken toe. Olympic will look to their in-form players free-back, Tony Dakos, showing magnificent early form and attacking midfielders, Jimmy Patikas and Peter Katholos.

Patikas has scored four goals in his last two matches, (two in the Super Challenge Cup and two in last Sunday's Ampol Cup), with his strong, powerful runs into the box.



MARCONI

V

SYDNEY OLYMPIC



TOMORROW NIGHT
WEDNESDAY
FEBRUARY 8



KICK-OFF 7.30PM
AT MARCONI STADIUM

LIONS' MAN

— from Page 1

Noon has been wanting to get into the NSL during the past couple of seasons. Last year he unsuccessfully applied for a couple of positions.

Noon is thankful to the Ku-ring-gai club for the coaching opportunity they had given him.

"The Chasers have been great to me. I wish them all the best and I hope they do well this year.

"They have given me a free hand in controlling the coaching and selection of players.

"It's sad to leave after such a successful stint there," Noon concluded.

Harry Noon gave several youngsters their chance at Ku-ring-gai, and this probably influenced Lions' decision.

Last year the Brisbane club had one of the youngest sides in the NSL and Noon will mould these players into seasoned professionals.



□ PETER RASKOPOULOS pictured third from left as captain of the 1981 Australian Youth team. Also pictured are Howard Tredinnick and goalkeeper Glenn Ahearn.

'RASKO' ON THE COMEBACK TRAIL

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

ONE player Sydney Olympic have welcomed back with open arms is match-winning midfielder Peter Raskopoulos. Ready to set the season alight, Rasko has set himself goals for the 1984 season.

Raskopoulos, who started his first grade career with Olympic at the tender age of 15, has two primary aims for the coming season.

He is confident that Sydney Olympic can win the eastern section of the NSL and that he can fight his way back into the national team.

For some these goals may seem far fetched but others are confident that Olympic can reach their best ever position in the NSL, if not win the revamped competition.

For many years people have hoped that the largely supported Greek club could win the competition.

Raskopoulos started his career with Pan Hellenic (now Sydney Olympic) during his fourth year of high school. His debut was against the now defunct Western Suburbs.

Kaz Kulak coached him in his first year but at the end of 1978, Olympic finished at the tail of the competition and they were relegated to the NSW State League.

Rasko was transferred to Marconi in 1979. This surprised many people, especially the Greek supporters.

"It was simple. I didn't want to play in the State League competition. I felt that I needed to play in the NSL if I was to continue learning," Raskopoulos said.

It was at Marconi under the guidance of Les Scheinflug that Raskopoulos developed into a better defensive player.

"At Marconi Les payed particular interest in my defensive style. That made me a better player — I was a good player when I left Sydney Olympic — but when I returned I was more knowledgeable on all aspects of mid-field play," Raskopoulos said.

It was in the middle of the 1980 season that Raskopoulos encountered problems at Marconi. At the end of 1979 Les Scheinflug had left the club and was replaced by Raul Blanco.

Rasko had difficulty fitting into the side and returned to Olympic in a swap deal with Harry Hosseini.

During the remainder of the 1980 season Raskopoulos played with determination and skill in the midfield for Olympic and Australian coach Les Scheinflug knew that he would play an important role for the national youth team in their quest of the World Youth Cup.

Raskopoulos gained the captain's position after Penrith's Ian Hunter had injured himself just before the WYC started.

It was during the 1981 World Youth Cup that Raskopoulos gained world class ranking with eye catching performances. Many remember his cracking 25 metre freekick which rattled the woodwork against England at the Sydney Sports Ground.

Raskopoulos draws interesting comparisons between the 1981 and 1983 youth teams.

"When you look back at our effort we should have progressed further if not won it. Last year's team had a tremendous build-up," he said.

"If we gained all that international experience prior to our competition we would have won it. Man for man I still think that our side was better," Raskopoulos added.

During the last two years, injuries and changes in coaching staff at Olympic has halted his progress on the local scene. Last year he didn't play for seven months because of serious ligament damage to his ankle.

Raskopoulos is confident he can fight his way back into the Australian team. The last time he was selected was in February 1983 during the disastrous series against New Zealand.

Rasko draws comparisons with the Australian side that recently won the Merlion Cup and the Australian squad of the late 70's.

"During the 70's the Australian team always had seven or eight regular players that were basically automatic selections.

"Now we have about 30

to 40 equally balanced players which means there is a wider section of talent to pick from," Raskopoulos said.

All players and supporters of Soccer wish that Peter Raskopoulos can climb back up the ladder of success. His pin-point passing, distribution and accurate shots have been sorely missed.

I feel that Rasko still hasn't reached his full potential and hopefully he will do so this year. One feels certain that he can enhance his number of internationals

GIBSON RIFT DEEPENS

THE PROSPECT of midfielder-striker Ian Gibson playing with the Canberra Arrows in the NSL this year took a nosedive following a meeting between Gibson and Arrows coach Doug Collins.

After the meeting, Collins declared: "Ian Gibson remains on transfer. As far as I am concerned, the best thing for him, for me and for the Canberra Arrows is for Gibson to leave the club."

Those problems had their genesis when Collins took over the Arrows at the end of the 1983 season.

Gibson was one of the few to be offered a new contract. But he, along with Arrows skipper Terry Byrne, rejected Collins' original offer.

The Arrows have joined the many clubs that this season have reduced signing-on fees to an absolute minimum and instead are to pay one of the best win bonuses in the League. The scale of fees is understood to be \$100 for a loss, \$150 for a draw and \$350 for a victory.

Collins set a deadline by which those players offered terms could accept or reject his offer. When that period passed, both Byrne and Gibson were added to the list of players on transfer.

Gibson left on holidays without contacting Collins.

It is obvious Collins resented an inquiry by Gibson seeking to know who would be in the squad before he signed. Collins made it clear that if Gibson did return he would not be offered the same terms.

Collins' professionalism must have been further offended by an interview Gibson gave to Canberra's local commercial television station which was introduced by the interviewer with the words: "Today the Canberra Arrows are a club in crisis."

Appearing on the programme, Collins denied the claim and pointed out that his offers to the various players were "not negotiable".

A little over a week ago, Gibson returned to Canberra and advised Collins that he wanted to sign his contract. Collins said that as far as he was concerned Gibson had gone past the signing-on period that he had given him, but that

he was prepared to offer him a new set of terms.

Those terms were less than the original offer.

Collins told ASW: "Gibson feels that in the circumstances he cannot work with me. He has not worked with me before, so on what basis he makes his judgment I do not know."

BY BERNIE HARRIS

"I took exception to his wanting to know what my squad would be when he first came in. To be honest, it seems that he and I just don't hit it off."

Collins confirmed that Gibson would remain on transfer at a fee of \$15,000.

Gibson, just turned 32, came to Canberra from Kilmarnock. Two years earlier he had been transferred from Aberdeen.

Gibson is no stranger to controversy. His purchase in late March 1981 for less than \$10,000 was linked with the signing of Ian Purdie, but many Canberra fans resented

like this is in the back of your mind."

Unfortunately he has been put in a situation that a lot of other young lads face, just because they sign that 'blue form'.

Collins added that he was willing to pay a reasonable fee for Farina, but he sounded a note of warning.

"It appears that a lot of money was paid for players by Canberra in the past, and those players weren't worth what was spent. We have got to get some reality back into the situation."

The letter from the Canberra coach proposing payment of \$3,000 for Farina was not well received in Mareeba.

According to Queensland sources, Mareeba was disturbed by a threat in the letter that, if the offer was not accepted, legal action would be contemplated.

Mareeba has 14 days from receipt of the Arrows offer to advise the Queensland Soccer Federation whether it accepts or rejects the proposal. Rejection is considered likely.

If the clubs cannot determine the matter, the QSF will hear an appeal by Farina against the transfer fee.

If Farina and the Arrows dispute the ruling, the next step is an appeal to the Australian Soccer Federation.

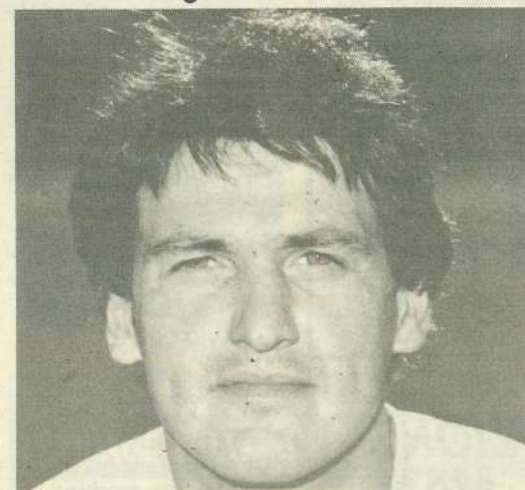


□ FRANK FARINA

Arrows sources stated that it was their understanding that if Farina was unhappy with the adjudication he might commence proceedings — the Equity Court being the likely jurisdiction — following legal advice that he had received.

Meanwhile, kick-off date for the 1984 season draws closer. Time is running out for one of Australia's most talented strikers and both parties, in the interests of the lad, should let common sense prevail and settle on a fee as soon as possible without further protracted wrangles.

As bitterness grows, will anyone blame Farina if he persists with his desire to seek fame and fortune overseas?



the fact that, to import the two players, then coach George Murray sold local idol Baz Giampaolo for \$20,000 to Leichhardt.

Those objections were soon quelled when Gibson scored vital goals for the Arrows.

Gibson is another Canberra player who could be most reluctant to leave the ACT. He holds a Bachelor of Education (English) and is a high school teacher. Additionally, he is involved with the coaching of youngsters at various Soccer camps in the district, a job in which he has demonstrated a gift for communicating his undoubted skills and experience to his young charges.

The door on Gibson's career with the Arrows appears to have slammed firmly shut.

Doug Collins left no doubts about his position.

"I don't expect to hear from Gibson again," was his terse comment.

IT'S ALL NSL IN CUP QUARTER-FINALS

BY BRAD EARL

THIS week's quarter-finals in the NSW Ampol Cup provide very interesting and potentially entertaining matches.

None of the NSW State League sides has won their way through to the quarter-finals and it's going to be a battle between the 'big guns' of the NSL.

Friday night's double-header is set down for Marconi Stadium, with Penrith City playing St George in the early game, followed by Blacktown City against Marconi.

The other two matches are on Sunday night at St George Stadium, with Leichhardt meeting Sydney City and Sydney Olympic playing Croatia.

St George may have Mike Fraser back in goal, but if he can't play Warwick Young is likely to be given his chance against Penrith.

Terry Greedy's return last Sunday was only a one-off affair against his former club Melita.

Otherwise Saints are at full-strength. Their team-



□ MIKE FRASER

work and understanding were their biggest attributes last season, and this will be where they will have a distinct advantage over the new Penrith City side.

Penrith should have Brian Jackson, from UK Northern Premier League side Macclesfield, on the

field after his arrival last Sunday.

Blacktown City will need to field a more experienced side for the clash with Marconi than the one that defeated Polonia last weekend.

This match will see Gary Byrne lining up for Blacktown against his

former club, and he should be a big asset for the Demons this season.

However, Marconi will go into this match as favourites as they have a far stronger attack at this stage.

Leichhardt and Sydney City fielded several young players in their opening round games, and these two sides should be evenly matched.

Many of Sydney City's stars from the 1983 season haven't resigned as yet.

Leichhardt, a club that hasn't really entered the transfer market during the off-season, will rely on three newcomers to their first team, Robert De Ceglie, Carlo Spina and ex-Olympic player Jim Ziras.

The final quarter-final between Croatia and Olympic should also be very even, and should be a

good crowd-puller.

Croatia lost 1-3 to Olympic in the Super Challenge Cup, but that was with an experimental side, and now that coach Atti Abonyi will be settling on just who he wants in his squad, Croatia will be a big hurdle for the Olympic team.

□ BRIAN JACKSON



NSW SOCCER FEDERATION

★★★★★★★★presents★★★★★★★★

NSW AMPOL CUP

QUARTER-FINALS

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 — MARCONI STADIUM

6.45pm Penrith City v St George

8.25pm Blacktown City v Marconi

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 12 — ST GEORGE STADIUM

6.45pm Leichhardt v Sydney City

8.25pm Sydney Olympic v Sydney Croatia

NEXT WEEK —

SEMI-FINALS

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 10
(GROUND TO BE DECIDED)

Blacktown City or Marconi

v

Leichhardt or Sydney City

Penrith City or St George

v

Sydney Olympic or Sydney Croatia

READERS' FORUM

Do you want to get something off your chest?

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LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!



□ GARY BYRNE



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PENRITH HAVE A POOR START

BY DAVID JACK

THE birth of the babes, new NSL team Penrith City, against Auburn Uruguay in the NSW Ampol Cup was hardly the launching the Penrith people anticipated.

In fact, Penrith squeezed through on penalty kicks, 5-4, after spending the 80 minutes of normal time plus 20 minutes of extra time without ever looking like scoring a goal.

It is far too early, of course, for anyone to criticise the Penrith team.

As coach Willie Wallace said after the game: "I did not expect anything tonight. This is a team built up from a bunch of strangers and it is bound to take time to get things sorted out."

Auburn, regular strugglers in the State League, actually looked the better side although they, too, could hardly muster a decent shot all night.

Ian Hunter and Dave McIntosh were unavailable to play for Penrith because of problems over their transfers from Marconi and Yugal respectively.

With those two in the squad, Penrith are bound to look better.

Also, the UK imports are going to take time to become acclimatised and are bound to improve.

"The important thing about this Auburn game was it gave me the chance to see our failings and I am now in a better position to rectify them," said Wallace.

One thing which cannot be denied is that Wallace faces a huge job fashioning a successful side out of the "new" Penrith.

He claims he is not worried, but I would have been. Penrith will have to improve 100 per cent to make any impact on the NSL.

They are capable of doing that.

Probably Penrith's best chance was in the opening minutes when Peter Nix, from Twin Towns, Queensland, had a clear shot at goal but fired high and wide. After that, Auburn's defence put the handcuffs on Penrith.

Most exciting incidents in the whole affair were the penalty kicks to decide the winners.

Ray Carney of Auburn was the first to fail, making the penalty tally 4-4, with Roy Cotton next to shoot. Carlos Rosaro saved Cotton's shot and that took the kicking into the sudden death phase.

Four penalties were missed in succession before Nix put things beyond doubt by scoring Penrith's fifth penalty goal.

Penrith meet St George in the next round... and could hardly face anything tougher with Saints the NSL champions.

□ Penrith City's Roy Cotton is in anguish as he is challenged by Auburn's determined stopper Slav Planinic (photos by DAVID JELLINGS)



WINN UPSTAGES LOWE

BY BRAD EARL

BIG English centre-forward Steve Winn scored two brilliant first-half goals to send Marconi on their way to a 3-0 victory over Sutherland Shire in the Ampol Cup second round.

In doing so, Winn — who only got back from a UK holiday earlier in the week — staked his claim for a regular striking position under new Marconi coach Les Scheinflug.

On the Wednesday before this Friday night game, Scheinflug had secured the signature of David Lowe from Newcastle KB, and the Australian Youth international made his debut in the second half.

But it was Winn's goals that made the night memorable.

The first came after 32 seconds, and wasn't a very pleasant restart to the career of Sutherland goalkeeper Mal Haynes, who came out of retirement to

play in this game after Paul Dart was injured the week before.

Marconi played the ball around on the left side, and Winn took the ball about 40 metres from goal, moved forward and unleashed a thunderbolt shot that left Haynes grasping into thin air.

The big goalie, who is 29, had a good game despite the scoreline. His backline was continually beaten for speed, and Haynes showed why he was once included in an Australian squad and won a national league championship medal with Hakoah (Sydney City) in 1977.

Twice in the first half Haynes had to dive at the

feet of Marconi players (Winn and Ricky Budini) who had broken clear of the defence inside the penalty area.

However, Haynes was caught by surprise when Marconi scored again in the 35th minute. Rene Licata centred the ball from the left and Winn, standing just inside the penalty area, let fly with a spectacular left-foot volley.

The third Marconi goal was scored in the 65th minute when Rod Brown headed in.

Sutherland saw plenty of the ball in midfield in this match, yet their two inexperienced strikers never tested Marconi goalie Bruce James.

For Marconi, Scheinflug used this game to experiment with a few players, notably midfield-

der Raul Carizzo, who is trying to win a permanent place in the 1984 squad in these Ampol Cup games.



SLICKERS OLD HANDS PAVE WAY FOR WIN

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

SYDNEY CITY, fielding an under-strength side, eliminated Canterbury-Marrickville from the Ampol Cup with a 2-1 victory at St George Stadium.

This is the second year in succession that City have eliminated the Berries.

Only four regular players from Sydney City's 1983 squad played in this game: Gerry Gomez, Todd Clarke, Ken Boden and Murray Barnes.

It was their experience

and skill that set-up Sydney City's win.

The Berries had countless opportunities to score, but poor finishing in front of goal led to their downfall.

Against the run of play, City opened their account in the 14th minute. A scramble from a Barnes corner was slammed home from three metres by Gomez.

Fletcher made it 2-0 midway the second half when he beat the offside trap and slotted the ball past the stranded Canterbury keeper El Zein.

Loui Dounnis, transferred from Sydney Olympic in the off-season, scored a consolation goal with seconds remaining. He made a solo run inside the penalty area, left four defenders stranded and confidently kicked the ball home.

For Canterbury-Marrickville, defender Sprio Hantzis, midfielder Dennis Fternatis and striker Dounnis were the pick.

Sydney City were the best served by midfielders Barnes and Boden and Gomez controlled the defence.



□ GERRY GOMEZ: goalscorer

OLYMPIC HIT SIX PAST BANKSTOWN

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

SYDNEY OLYMPIC overpowered NSW State League side Bankstown National 6-1 to advance into the quarter-finals of the Ampol Cup.

Bankstown played with enterprise and determination during the opening period.

In the 28th minute striker Peter Hassan stunned the Sydney Olympic crowd when he scored an opportunist goal from six metres.

Soper levelled terms with a confident drive at goal from a Kalantzis cross from the left flank.

Olympic moved into the lead minutes later after Bankstown captain Roy Agostino attempted to head the ball clear but it ended up in the back of his net.

Seconds before the break, Mark Koussas made it 3-1 after he swooped onto a loose ball and slotted it into goal.

Olympic asserted their

superiority throughout the second half, creating numerous goalscoring opportunities. Three fell to Koussas within the first 20 minutes but he was off target on all occasions.

Patikas, who looked dangerous every time he approached the area, scored his double in the 44th and 74th minutes.

Soper sealed the issue,

scoring a penalty with a minute remaining after Naumov was brought down in the box by Bankstown substitute Fred Hasnic.

Tony Dakos, Gary Phillips and Jim Patikas all had strong games for Olympic. Bankstown's best were Hassan, Jim Meerbani and Phil Dalton.



□ Rob Slater takes on Parramatta Melita right-back Richie Williams

WHEATLEY MAKES BIG IMPACT IN MIDFIELD

BY BRAD EARL

RIGHT-BACK Rob Wheatley's talents may be seen to better effect in midfield, if his form in Blacktown City's 1-0 win over Polonia is anything to go by.

With the departure of several of last year's regulars, there was talk that Wheatley would settle permanently in the sweeper position in which he played temporarily last season.

However, usual stopper Cliff Pointer, played sweeper in this game, with Wheatley at right-back.

Polonia exerted early pressure, but as their condition gave out, Wheatley, last year's NSW State League U21 Player of the Year, ventured into midfield and made several pinpoint passes.

Four second graders from last year were given their chance for the Demons in this game, while Gary Byrne (from Canberra Arrows) and Adam Sandy (from Northampton Town) made their debuts for Blacktown in midfield.

Johnny Larkin

switched from his usual left wing position to the centre of the attack, and the move paid dividends when he scored the only goal with a header in the 17th minute.

The match had opened with scoring chances to both teams, with Blacktown keeper Barry Hoare having to move swiftly to punch clear twice in the first 10 minutes.



Polonia always looked capable of mounting a successful attack, with the two skilful Poles, Ziggy Garlowski and Henry Sobczyk, creating openings. However, these two can't do it all by themselves.

Polonia keeper Andy Greenfield, who was on Blacktown's books two

seasons back, was largely responsible for keeping the score down to 1-0. He had to throw himself around several times in the second half to deny the Demons, who were easily cutting through the

slow Polonia defence.

For Blacktown, Larkin moving confidently up-front, while Sandy, Byrne and Brett Thornthwaite, assisted by Wheatley, settled in well in midfield.



□ ROB WHEATLEY: 1983 U21 Player of the Year

MEADES PROMINENT IN CROATIA WIN

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

CROATIA SYDNEY advanced into the quarter-finals at the Ampol Cup, defeating arch-rivals Yugal 2-0 at St George Stadium.

Croatia looked in control throughout the first half, but during the first 20 minutes of the second, Yugal started to dominate proceedings.

Yugal keeper Peter Berry pulled off many brilliant saves. The scoreline could have been

greater had it not been for his fine form, particularly in one-on-one situations.

Croatia newcomer Steve Meades opened the scoring in the 31st minute. A shot from Arnold was blocked and Meades' attempt rebounded off a Yugal defender and past the stranded Berry.

During the early periods of the second half, Yugal substitute Jesic looked dangerous in forward build-ups. Unfortunately, these broke down before any pressure could be made on the Croatia goal.

Meades and Shane Clinch looked impressive

in attacking movements and it wasn't surprising to see the latter involved in the second goal.

Clinch ran onto a pass from the midfield, drove the ball against the underside of the crossbar and team-mate Paul Kirman was there to slam it home.

A LONG WAIT FOR WINNER

BY BRAD EARL

ST GEORGE'S perseverance paid dividends with an extra-time goal to give them a 1-0 win over Parramatta Melita in a thunderstorm at Melita Stadium.

Melita went into this match without six established players — Bobby McGinn, Kenny Wilson, Alec Jamieson, Don Allan, Billy Griffiths and Ray Farrugia — who are all on the injury list.

"This was a makeshift team, with four or five kids in the team," coach Raul Blanco said. "I am very proud of them."

All six 'crops' are expected to recommence full training within the next couple of weeks, and Melita should be back to full strength for the start of the NSL in a month's time.

The Eagles had a very good chance to take an early lead against the Saints when they were awarded a penalty in the eighth minute.

However, Wayne Farnsworth's shot and follow-up effort were both stopped by stand-in goalkeeper Terry Greedy.

Greedy, who announced his retirement from the game after playing for Australia in the victorious final of the Merlion Cup last November, was playing in place of the injured Mike Fraser.

As the rain came down, the match was reduced to a battle to keep the ball moving on the waterlogged pitch.

At half-time, Saints coach Frank Arok sent Andrew Koczka on for Peter Petkovski, and these two young players are having a real battle to see who will be favoured for the central striking position for the season.

In the 51st minute, there was a controversial incident in Greedy's goal-mouth, as Dennis Duarte made two attempts to stab the ball over the line.

As Greedy grabbed the ball, Melita players claimed a goal, but referee Doug Rennie ruled that the ball had not crossed the line.

Once Melita sent two youngsters on for Duarte and John McKie during the second half, St George had to be favoured to win.

But the Eagles forced extra-time, and the winning goal did not come until midway through the second period. Youngster Pedro Ricoy was the scorer, with a shot from six metres.



□ Melita's Steve McDonald chases Saints' Rob Slater in Ampol Cup action

DE CEGIE'S BURST IN EXTRA-TIME

BY KEITH GILMOUR

A STORMING finish from Leichhardt in extra-time featuring goals by Robert De Ceglie and Ian Gray lifted Leichhardt into the Ampol Cup quarter-finals with a 2-1 win over Wollongong City.

Glenn Fontana was the solitary Wolves scorer with a 20-metre lob which flew in from his shin over goalkeeper Bobby Parkes' head.

All the goals came in a three-minute burst in the second period of extra-time.

Most of the earlier exchanges were far more mechanical than intuitive, with Leichhardt winger John Bradley the man who cleverly made

the play for the winners.

The fact that it was the first run for both teams was obvious in their play. Leichhardt newcomers were young defender Carlo Spina, centre-back Jim Ziras and former Lake Macquarie striker Kerry Caban.

Frankly, Caban was cumbersome but coach Fil Bottalico is certain that he will settle in and make the grade.

Ziras sallied forward

well but he was chancy in defence.

Wollongong, with rebels John Fleming, Larry Gaffney and Jeff Ainsworth in the stand, did enough to show that Adrian Alston is assembling a highly-dedicated bunch of triers who will not be a one-man team.

The centre-back combination of Ray Vlietstra and Zivko Hristovski was particularly reassuring.

CHIT HAT



BILLY GRIFFITHS, Melita Eagles player of the year in 1983, could be out of action for some time.

Griffiths had to miss the third place match against Sydney Croatia in the St George Super Challenge.

He has a hamstring injury and has been told by his doctor to rest his leg for a couple of weeks.

"I hope Billy isn't out any longer," said Melita coach Raul Blanco, who is expecting big things from Griffiths when the National League kicks off.

■■■■

IT seems Manly's plan to import the outstanding Glenn Hoddle as a guest player in the NSW State League wasn't just newspaper talk.

Talks were held in London with Hoddle last week and the player is very keen to guest in Australia: the big problem is whether or not the player will be required for an England tour.

■■■■

PETER AHRENS, a consistent high-rater in NSW Rothmans Medal counts, is one goalkeeper who would jump at the chance of playing in the National League.

Ahrens has played for Avala for the past eight years, and captained the side for a few seasons.



□ PETER AHRENS

COACH Adrian Alston is hoping young midfielder Alex Bundalo will make a name for himself in the NSL with Wollongong City this season.

Bundalo has been training with the Wollongong squad after switching from Fairy Meadow.

Originally from the Sydney area, Bundalo joined Fairy Meadow when his family moved to Wollongong to live three years ago.

After attending a Sydney coaching clinic two years ago, Bundalo was selected to go to England and have a stint with Manchester United.

A very skilful player, Bundalo needs just a bit of time to settle into the higher class of football to make his mark.

■■■■

DAVID MITCHELL could have the unusual experience of playing AGAINST his team, Glasgow Rangers, in June.

Rangers are tipped to tour Australia. If they do, they will get a request from the Australian Soccer Federation to "loan" Mitchell to an Australian XI.

Socceroo team manager Andrew Lederer said: "It would be a good opportunity for coach Les Scheinflug to see how Mitchell can blend in with his former Australian teammates."



□ MARTYN CROOK

THE big meeting of the Australian Soccer Federation's World Cup committee, which was supposed to sort out the immediate future facing the Socceroos, sorted out nothing.

ASW understands the meeting was a flop.

Oh well... better luck next time!

■■■■

TOM TOTSIKAS, regular full-back for West Adelaide in 1982, is back in the team — as a midfielder.

He took off for Greece last year after completing studies, but is now home to stay and is being used in the middle of the park by new coach Sam Salabasidis.

DESPITE Australia's valiant effort in the World Youth Championship in Mexico last June, no player was named in the world XI included in the official FIFA report on the series.

Two Scots, sweeper Neale Cooper, a regular with league leaders Aberdeen, and skilful midfielder Paul McStay, of Glasgow Celtic, were included.

Holland's Gerald Vanenburg was the only other European to gain a spot.

■■■■

MARCONI seem to be building up a stable of Youth Socceroos.

The Fairfield club snapped up David Lowe from Newcastle KB United last week at a comparatively small fee.

Lowe now joins other Australian Youth squad players Joe Rizzotto, Rod Brown, Rene Licata and Tommy McCulloch under the care of Socceroo and Marconi coach Les Scheinflug.

All five players represented Australia in Mexico at the World Youth Championship last year.

■■■■

FORMER Cambridge United player Ian Buckley, who spent most of his time on the sidelines injured while with Newcastle KB United, will be moving to Western Australia to join Alan Vest's side Athena.

Buckley, who cost Newcastle a fee of \$15,000 from Cambridge, was subject to constant knee injuries and played only a handful of matches in his two seasons with the club.

It is believed that a transfer fee of \$1,000 will change hands if negotiations are completed.

The difference of \$14,000 would have been most useful to the ailing KB United at present!

THE ACT Soccer Federation is gearing up for another bumper season, with one of the highlights proposed a match between an ACT representative side and a State representative team to be staged on April 29 to celebrate the 25th year of the incorporation of the ACTSF.

■■■■

ST GEORGE must have made a handy profit from their pre-season tournament, the Super Challenge Cup.

The four double headers were watched by a total 19,000 spectators.

Even allowing for many children being admitted free, plus other free tickets, the cash takings were around \$60,000.

Deduct expenses and \$10,000 prize money and Saints still had a good money-making series to their credit.

ALTHOUGH Adelaide City coach Edmund Kreft has been in Moomba completing a contract as a site supervisor, his team is in top shape.

Players have been working under physical trainer Keith Hastings, with ball work coming from former coach Bob D'Ottavi who is now the club's football manager.

■■■■

LAST Wednesday night in the Super Challenge Cup St George reserve goalkeeper Warwick Young replaced Michael Fraser after he suffered an ankle injury in the final of the Cup against Sydney Olympic.

Warwick's father Bobby, played in the midfield for Australia during the 1950s. His brother Craig is a first grade Rugby League player with St George and has represented NSW and Australia.

WORD is Martyn Crook, former Socceroo goalkeeper, will rejoin West Adelaide.

Crook is involved in a new pest control business, and, while he refused to sign a new contract, he has had talks with West and says he will meet officials again after the Ampol Cup summer series.

■■■■

SPOTTED striding across the magnificent turf of Canberra's Manuka Oval during the tea break in the Prime Minister's XI versus West Indies Cricket match was former Canberra Arrows coach George Murray.

He was among the 15,000 who packed the Oval to prove once again that if the attraction is top-class, support will come from the Canberra public.

George and a partner are now mine hosts of the local tavern at the South Side Caravan Park, Fyshwick. There is a "permanent" population of some 200, which is considerably swelled by the continuing tourist influx to the national capital.

And, of course, all his old friends from the Soccer community are regulars to discuss developments in the code.

■■■■

THINGS haven't started well for Wollongong City this year, but chairman Laurie Kelly is confident his club will have a good year.

"We have had problems with players and it seems we will have to rely heavily on youngsters at least to start the season," he said.

"People in Wollongong have been telling us to use local talent since we started out so it will be interesting to see if they turn up and support us now."

"This is our fourth season and we realise we will have to improve our position on the ladder from 1983."

Kelly helped get Wollongong off the ground and has been a tireless worker for the club. He has been rewarded with his appointment as a vice-president of the ASF.

The appointment is an indication of his commitment to the code.



THE BLACKTOWN City Demonettes are already in serious training for their promotional activities at Blacktown City's home games this year.

They are pictured with club supporter John Aleurs. A few girls are still required for the squad and any girls interested can call Kerry at the club on 624 3344 or the Demonettes manager Susanne on 625 7697.



□ BRUCE STOWELL (left) and MURRAY BARNES. Stowell, now Queensland coaching director, played for Pan Hellenic, and Barnes was with Hakoah (now Sydney City)

TEAMS visiting Spencer Park this season will no doubt be impressed with City's new ground entrance. The club has erected a giant cement arch on which they have painted: 'Welcome to Spencer Park. Home of the Gladiators.'

■■■

FORMER Newcastle KB United and Brisbane Lions goalkeeper Phil Dando has left for New Zealand to take over the coaching reins of Nelson, in the NZ National League.

Dando is no stranger to the Nelson fans having played there for some seasons, following an apprenticeship with Liverpool in England.

He did not play at all last season for Newcastle after having lost his position to the promising young New Zealander Clint Gosling.

With a transfer tag of \$10,000 placed on his head by the Newcastle club, little interest was shown in the experienced keeper and he drifted out of the game.

At this stage it is likely he will concentrate fully on his coaching duties for the Nelson Club.

SYDNEY CITY have experienced unexpected delays in getting their top players to sign on the dotted line.

Before picking his team for the first Ampol Cup match against Canterbury last week, coach Eddie Thomson lamented: "Ken Boden, Jimmy Cant and Murray Barnes are the only three 1983 first team regulars available for selection."

■■■

SYDNEY Croatia striker Graham Arnold almost thought he scored a double against Parramatta Melita at St George Stadium last Wednesday night.

Just outside the area, his low drive was well covered by Melita's Alex McPherson but not his right boot. It beat McPherson and ended up in the back of the net.



□ PHIL DANDO

QUEENSLAND Soccer Federation president Ian Brusasco moved quickly last week to avoid a precedent being set in relation to State director of coaching Bruce Stowell.

Stowell had accepted a request to coach the Lions NSL squad for a few sessions until the club appointed a replacement for Simon Kistemaker.

It is nothing new for the former Sydney player to take a training session at a club, but when Brusasco learned that Stowell intended going back to take a second session, the door was quickly shut.

Brusasco defended his actions, saying the State director could not be seen to be favouring one club ... or was Queensland's Soccer boss scared Stowell may develop a yearning to return to club football?

■■■

FORMER Kilmarnock player Joe Cairney is the first casualty from the change-over of coaches at Brisbane City.

The Scottish striker has been placed on transfer by new coach Joe Gilroy.

The move is yet another chapter in what has been a far from successful association between Cairney and City.

The 27-year-old Scotsman came to City in February 1982 but never consolidated a place in the first team.

Although he scored goals at reserve grade level, Cairney seldom put things together in NSL matches and quickly became a target for the fickle City supporters.

A transfer fee is yet to be set for Cairney, who has an extension on his visa until next January.

FORMER Socceroo full-back Bobby Hogg has settled in Adelaide, and joined the coaching staff of Rothmans State League club Elizabeth City.

Hogg is organising coaching clinics for a video firm specialising in showing overseas matches at club rooms.

The clinics for youngsters will be run in conjunction with the video nights.

ADELAIDE CITY have refused to grant Neil Banfield an extension of time in England.

The former England Youth team sweeper asked to be allowed to stay on with Orient as they had a chance to gain promotion to Second Division.

But City say they want him back now, or he can forget his Australian contract.

THE late defection to Europe of Brisbane Lions coach Simon Kistemaker caused Lions to make enquiries about finding a suitable replacement.

The name of Rale Rasic was mentioned, but former national coach Rasic is not interested.

"Right now, I'm much more concerned about my new career in insurance," said Rale, "although I would like to compliment

Lions on the fabulous facilities they've built up since entering the National League."

■■■

ERNIE CAMPBELL, the skilful former Australian team striker, is transfer-listed by Parramatta Melita.

Campbell played for the Eagles last year, but dropped out of the squad after negotiations with the club broke down.



□ ERNIE CAMPBELL

GULLY LACK STRIKING STRENGTH

BY GARY CUTLER

LAST season's Victorian State League champions Green Gully, and surprise package of the cup so far, Croydon City, played out a dull 0-0 draw in the Buffalo Gold Cup.

Croydon, who have lost most of their key players from last year, were rarely troubled by the Gully-forwards.

Green Gully are badly missing the services of striker Paul Lewis.

Last season's successful player-coach Dave Smallman performed well.

As far as Croydon were

concerned the game was a success, with striker Ian Loughnane putting on a good performance.

He could well be a sought-after signing if he keeps up his present form.

The game gave little encouragement for new Gully coach Jimmy Rooney, who was pleased with the fact that his side

got the ball forward a little quicker and were not as content to play about at the back as they have been accused of in the past.

The Croydon club must be looking forward to this season in the State League, as with the big four missing and many of the top players from the

other clubs joining the NSL, they are sure to be a force in the competition.

As for Gully, Rooney will need to obtain a top striker if the side are to do as well as expected — although the players at the club are more than capable of doing the job but may lack a little match practice.



RIGHT: PAUL LEWIS

LEFT: JOHN YZENDOORN



YZENDOORN SCORES

BY GARY CUTLER

SOUTH MELBOURNE stayed at the top of their section with a 1-0 victory over Footscray.

For one hour of the game they were only facing 10 men due to the sending-off of Footscray defender Gary McDowell.

McDowell was given his marching orders after 30 minutes of the game when he retaliated against Doug Brown.

The decision by referee Jim Fearn seemed a little harsh, as Brown appeared to tap McDowell on the ankles as he passed the strong defender, but received no punishment from the ref.

This was to be the turning point as McDowell had proved a tower of strength at the back for

Footscray in the early exchanges.

South were soon to take advantage of the situation, with Oscar Crino taking a grip of the game in the middle of the park.

They pinned Footscray in their own half for long periods of the first half, although the 10 Footscray players were defiant and gave away few chances.

South coach Len McKendry changed the plans a little at the interval and South came out to try to expose the space on the wings and stretch the Footscray defence.

They broke through when John Yzendoorn

latched onto a loose ball and kept his composure in the box to slip the ball into the corner.

South Melbourne should have gone further ahead when Brown had only Boland to beat, but the keeper made a tremendous save going down to his left to smother the shot.

Steve Blair had a goal disallowed for offside, although Jammie Paton appeared to be playing him well inside.

With the two games on Friday night only producing one goal between them, the crowd had little to shout about.

TOUGH BATTLE IN BUFFALO CUP

BY CON NIKOLOPOULOS

MELBOURNE CROATIA are preparing for a tough battle against Heidelberg United on Friday for a berth in the semi-finals of the Buffalo Gold Cup.

Currently leading section B with three points, one point ahead of their closest rivals Juventus and Heidelberg, Croatia will start favourites in Friday's game.

Their failure to overcome Juventus has not dampened their enthusiasm and they are expected to give Heidelberg a good shake-up.

Poor finishing forced Croatia to share the points in a 1-1 draw against Juventus.

Though they dominated the game for longer periods, they remained si-

lent until the 44th minute, when Shaun Parton scored with a header from close range.

Andrew Zinni replied with the equaliser five minutes later, blasting the ball into the net from the edge of the penalty area.

In the second game of the group, Heidelberg United and Preston also shared the points in a goalless draw.

Preston had the better of the scoring opportunities, particularly in the second half, and could have scored twice had

winger George Campbell been accurate in the goal-mouth.

Heidelberg exhausted their share of scoring chances in the opening half. Positive goalkeeping by Steve Potter, deputising for Richard Wilson, prevented them from taking the lead.

Preston are at the bottom of the section. To qualify they must beat Juventus on Saturday night while at the same time Croatia must win their game against Heidelberg.

Buffalo Summer Cup

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sth Melb	2	0	0	2	4	
Croydon	0	2	0	0	2	
Footscray	0	1	1	0	1	
Green Gully	0	1	1	0	1	

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Melb Crta	1	1	0	4	1	3
Juventus	0	2	0	2	2	
H'berg	0	2	0	1	2	
Preston	0	1	1	0	3	1

ARROWS GET GOING

CANBERRA ARROWS' coach Doug Collins was more than pleased with his new team's performance in its opening trial matches last weekend.

Although the results — a 1-1 draw with Juventus Hobart in Hobart on Saturday evening and a 1-0 win over Sutherland in Canberra the following day — were not earth shattering, the game gave Collins a much-needed chance to see his new squad in action.

"We had a few problems to sort out defensively after the Hobart game and I was quite pleased with our defensive performance on Sunday," said Collins.

Alan Reis scored for the Arrows in Hobart and Marko Perinovic got the winner in Canberra.

Collins' basic squad for the new-look Arrows first two games was: Franken (Hummel); Ontong (Mihailidis) Murray, Tony Redmond (brother of Phil) Jones; Hogg, Barnett, Bryant; Phillips, Perinovic, Reis.

KNOX CITY TOP

BY GARY CUTLER

THERE were some surprising results in last weekend's third round of the Buffalo State League Cup.

Knox City scored a 1-0 victory over Frankston Pines, and they went to the top of Section A due to the surprise defeat of the impressive Box Hill side at home to Ringwood Wihlemina.

The other result in section A was a 2-0 victory for Doveton over the struggling Northcote side, who have now conceded six goals in three games and scored only one.

Coach Tony Vrzina has certainly got his work cut out to get the side into any sort of form for the start of the season.

In Section B, Morwell Falcons had their lead at the top of the ladder re-

duced by dropping a vital point at home against Fawkner.

The 1-1 draw enabled Maribyrnong Polonia to close to within a point by thrashing the luckless Albion Rovers by 6-1.

Goals came free and easy, with a hat-trick for Kryszinski and two from Prsbyla. The other was added by defender Lipiarski.

St Albans Dinamo did not play at the weekend but could go to the top of the ladder if they win their game in hand.

Albion Rovers, who are now without a coach and look as though they are

without a team as well, are in deep trouble.

They may well have a fight to stay in the State League on present form, as could Northcote City.

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Knox City	3	0	0	5	2	6
Box Hill	2	0	1	4	2	4
Frn Pines	1	1	2	1	3	
Ringwood	1	1	2	2	3	
Doveton	1	0	2	3	4	
Northcote	0	0	3	1	6	0

	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morwell	2	2	0	6	2	6
Polonia	2	1	1	0	3	5
St Albans	2	0	1	5	4	
Fawkner	1	1	1	6	5	3
Broadmdws	1	0	1	2	2	
West Subs	1	0	1	1	1	
Albion Rrs	0	0	4	1	14	0

AROUND THE A.C.T.

WITH JOHNNY WARREN



HOGG HAS SETTLED



□ STEVE HOGG (right)

FORMER Youth and full national squad member Steve Hogg has settled quickly into Canberra.

Hogg, who played for Canberra as a 16-year-old back in 1977, has moved into the new house of his former team-mate of that time, Danny Moulis, in the inner city suburb of Campbell.

Hogg, with his Bachelor of Science degree in environmental science from Griffith Uni in Queensland, works as a statician with the National Parks and Wildlife working on research on the Kakadu National Park in the Northern Territory.

Moulis, who is a judge's associate, is attempting to comeback after two years out of the game with a serious cruciate ligament operation.

SIN-BIN TO OPERATE

THE sin-bin Rugby League system will be used in Soccer during the Canberra Friendship Cup tournament next weekend.

A 10-minute suspension from the game will be the penalty for a yellow card.

Although FIFA frowns on changing the Laws of the Game, it will be interesting to see the affect the sin-bin has during the tournament.

The Friendship Cup is seen as an ideal preparation for the Arrows and the chance for local fans

to see many new faces in Doug Collins' new squad.

The Arrows squad for the tournament is:

Goalkeepers: Tony Franken, Chris Hummel.

Defenders: John Mihailidis, Roy Jones, Paul Ontong, Andrew Young, Jim Murray, Michael Barnett, Angelo Ambrosino.

Midfielders: Andrew Brockbank, Ray Junna,

Steve Hogg, Steve Bryant.

Forwards: Marco Perinovic, Hilton Phillips, Manis Lamond, Alan Reis.

The draw is:

Sat, Feb 11 at Marco Polo Oval, Queanbeyan: 5 pm Canberra Arrows v AIS; 6.30 pm Inter Monaro v Belconnen United.

Sun, Feb 12 at Marco Polo: 5 pm Canberra Ar-

rows v Belconnen United; 6.30 pm Inter Monaro v AIS.

Sun, Feb 19 at Seiffert Oval, Queanbeyan: 6 pm Belconnen United v AIS; 8 pm Inter Monaro v Can-

berra Arrows.

Season passes for Arrows fans are now available from the Arrows' office in the Downer Olympic office in Dickson (phone 48 0708).

COLLINS MOVE

The Collins family finally made the move to Canberra last week moving into their new house at Spence.

Doug's wife Pat, who worked as a secretary at the National Coursing Association in Sydney,

had little trouble in gaining employment in Canberra.

She works as a personal secretary in the Aboriginal Development Commission, of which Canberra Arrows president Charles Perkins is the chairman.

AND NOW FOR THE GOLD APPLE...

FIRST of all let me wish all ASW readers a very happy New Year. I'm sure all of you are hoping, as I am, that 1984 will be a successful year for our new-look National League.

Looking back on 1983, I personally feel very satisfied. Being chosen by Frank Arok for the Australian squad to meet England was wonderful news for me and I was thrilled to have played in all three games against the Poms.

I also received the Sydney City Clubman of the Year award and, although the club failed to win a major award in 1983, under the circumstances the team did well to finish second.

I was again honoured and thrilled to go to Singapore to help Australia retain the Merlion Cup, and I'll never forget the

atmosphere in the Final in front of 60,000 spectators when we beat Singapore 4-2.

What an end to the year it was, but the icing on the cake was being voted Australian Player of the Year and receiving my award from the Prime Minister, Mr Bob Hawke, a night I'll never forget.

Going back to Singapore, the players were involved in another competition called the "Apple Awards".

Here are a few of the results, all held on the fifth floor of the Plaza Hotel.

Phil O'Connor and Tony Henderson were

joint winners in the bald heads competition; they outshone Mark Jankovics and Peter Tredinnick in a close finish.

John Kosmina won the Apple for the biggest nose in a titanic struggle with Charlie Yankos and Kenny Murphy. John was promptly nicknamed John "Konkmina". In the infamous apple-throwing contest, Jimmy Cant was outright winner, pipping Tony Henderson in the final. But Jimmy was awarded the White Feather for not owning up to his great feat when we were asked to clean up by officials.

He remarked that his

WATSON'S CROSSES

apple did not break its skin. (His room met a ghastly fate for his refusal to own up).

Jimmy, by the way, was quite often mistaken as one of the Chinese players by officials, and was promptly nicknamed "Jimmy Slant".

The Apple award for the best bargain-hunters on the trip went to my room-mate Jimmy Campbell and Terry Greedy. These two had a nightmare that if they bought something one day it was certain you could buy the same thing the next day for half the price.

Terry's Apple was posted to him in case he dropped it.

Bruce James was voted the biggest spend thrift on the tour if it was a bargain Bruce bought it. (Bruce's award also posted).

Peter Katholos and Charlie Yankos were voted by Apple judges as the most likely players to catch Les's wallet should it fall from his person.

David Ratcliffe was unanimously voted as most likely player to replace the goliwog on the

Golden Shred marmalade label.

I was voted as best at making and drinking tea, followed closely by Phil O'Connor. Although he makes a nice brew, he was just not up to my standard. Hard times Phil, keep brewing.

Steve O'Connor was nicknamed "The Moose" for the way he put fear into his opponents on the field — mind you they were all half his size.

And last but not least Graham Jennings as winner of the prize for the noisiest and most talkative player on the tour.

I'm sure all of the players are very thrilled to have won these awards! As for 1984, well Phil O'Connor and Tony Henderson most certainly have the best chances of retaining their Apple, the rest will have to keep practising. (The apples for these awards were kindly donated by Andrew Lederer.)



BY JOE WATSON



□ JOHN KOSMINA pictured with his family on his return to Australia with the national team — and the Merlion Cup



□ JIMMY CANT

FAVOURS TO ARROWS

SHOULD Sydney City win this year's NSL championship, as they well could, they will owe a few favours to Canberra Arrows for two of their players.

Jimmy Cant and John Paul De Marigny are both Canberra residents and train with the Canberra Arrows.

Cant lives at Spence whilst De Marigny, a student at Dickson College, lives with Canberra goalkeeper Chris Hummel.

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SAINTS SOAK UP PRESSURE TO WIN CUP FINAL

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

THE 1983 NSL champions, St George, opened their 'Trophy Account' for 1984 by taking out the Super Challenge Cup final.

Saints defeated a fast, electrifying Sydney Olympic 3-2 at the St George Stadium in a match which kept the customer satisfied.

The result surprised most people at the Stadium as Sydney Olympic exploded into action for the first 35 minutes.

It looked only a matter of time before an avalanche of goals would

crush St George, yet the many Olympic attacks broke down in the penalty area with very poor and reckless finishing.

It was St George who almost drew first blood. In the fifth minute, midfielder Mark Barton stretched Sydney Olympic's giant goalkeeper Gary Meier with a magnificent glancing header from close-range.

Meier dived low to his right to snatch the ball inches short of the line in

a spectacular save.

But then it was all Sydney Olympic as stocky striker Mark Koussas blasted wide of the target three times.

At his fourth attempt, in the 25th minute, Koussas cracked a magnificent shot from 25 metres out. The ball rocketed inches over the St George crossbar.

Sydney Olympic sustained attacking pressure with powerful runs from Jimmy Patikas, Marshall

Soper and Graham Jennings, but all to no avail.

The first goal was scored with only 60 seconds remaining to half-time — but at the other end of the pitch.

St George's tough little right-back, David Skeen, made his way up the field and hit a short pass into the centre to find young striker Peter Petkovski.

Petkovski headed the ball from six metres out to open St George's account.

Sydney Olympic had dominated the entire first half with a non-stop display of attacking Soccer, yet Saints held back and soaked up all this pressure, giving nothing away.

Saints' jubilation was short-lived however, as three minutes into the second-half, their goalkeeper, Mike Fraser, was carried off with a badly injured ankle suffered in a collision with Soper.

In the 58th minute, St George hit the target yet again, with a goal from Robbie Slater, who had drifted across to the left flank.

Slater broke away onto a ball passed through by Dez Marton, and coolly chipped the advancing Meier to score the second goal.

Olympic were now get-



□ PETER PETKOVSKI (right)

ting desperate, and sent on Peter Katholos in exchange for Terry Patalis in the 63rd minute.

But Saints replied to this ploy three minutes later with yet another goal from the evergreen Marton.

Skeen started the move by veering infield, and passed to Barton who attempted a shot on the run. The shot was blocked, and the ball ran loose to an unmarked Marton, who shot sharply from 15 metres out.

Sydney Olympic hit

back with two goals from Jimmy Patikas in the 67th and 89th minutes, but the show was all over by then.

Sydney Olympic made the mistake of playing at one pace only — flat out.

At such pace, their margin of error in front of goal increased appreciably.

As well, the strikers were content to finish their attacks individually with little or no back-up from their midfielders.

For the Cup victors, it was a united perform-

ance, with free-back David Ratcliffe marshalling his forces magnificently.

For Olympic, their free-back Tony Dakos was superb, well supported by make-shift centre-back Martyn Rogers and attacking midfielder Patikas.

St George manager Frank Arok said after the match: "It was a really good, entertaining, open cup final. It was a pleasure to watch and the fans got great value for their money."

APPLAUSE FOR A REFEREE!

THERE was a most unusual occurrence at the start of the St George — Sydney Olympic final of the Super Challenge Series... the referee was actually cheered by the 5,000 spectators!

But this was not just any ordinary referee.

The whistler to whom the crowd paid homage was Tony Boskovic, making his last appearance in front of a Sydney Soccer audience.

"Bosko" has had to retire, much against his will we think, because he has passed the age of 50.

It was a sentimental gesture to bring him on to referee the first couple of minutes of the big match: he then left the field and

handed over his whistle to Peter Rampley.

How many of the spectators who cheered Tony off the pitch have abused him in the past, over many years of refereeing in Australian Soccer?

All such memories were forgotten on the night.

Even the most critical of referee-baiters realised that a giant among refs was taking his departure. And Australian Soccer will be the poorer without Boskovich.

To mark the occasion, St George and Sydney Olympic both made pre-match presentations to Tony.

The presentations were made by club presidents Alex Pongrass and Jim Petinellis.

In a future issue, ASW will pay a bigger and better tribute to this doyen of referees: in the meantime, we say — good luck, Tony, and enjoy your retirement.



□ Alex Pongrass makes the presentation to Tony Boskovic

DEPLETED EAGLES HOLD CROATIA

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

PARRAMATTA Melita beat Croatia Sydney 1-0 in the play-off for third and fourth spot in the Super Challenge Cup at St George Stadium.

The game was played in windy conditions which didn't seem to suit either side. Poor finishing in front of goal by both forward lines stood out.

Both teams continually pumped high balls all over the field and their shooting was off target. Both sides should have adapted to the conditions by playing the ball on the ground.

Melita were fielding a depleted side with regular first grader, Billy Griffiths, Wayne Farnsworth, Bobby McGinn, Alex Jamieson and Ray Farugia missing.

Their young replacements filled in admirably and they would have learned from the experience of playing in the top grade.

The match erupted in the 40th minute. A one-two combination between Stuart Johnson and Don Allan found the latter free and his shot rattled the post and rebounded just wide of the goal.

The first 25 minutes after the break was very tight. A midfield battle had developed between both sides and no clear cut

chances in front of goal were given.

In the 73rd minute Croatia had their best chance to level terms. Shane Clinch, who worked tirelessly up front, broke through midway on his own half. He put a long ball across from the right side to Paul Kirwan on the left but Melita keeper Alex McPherson was there to thwart this attempt.

There was action aplenty in the last eight minutes. In the 82nd minute Don Allan could have put Melita ahead but from three metres out he fired the ball wide of goal.

Minutes later young Shane Clinch brilliantly turned on the ball 18 metres out but he drove it against the woodwork and it was cleared away by a Melita defender.

One minute later Melita sealed Croatia's fate. Midfielder Stuart Johnson made a dashing run on the right side of the area, he crossed the ball back for replacement Sertbas and he made no mistake with his confident header into goal.



□ ALEX McPHERSON (right): safe in goal

HENNESSEY LOVES A CHALLENGE



**PERSONALITY
OF THE WEEK**

TERRY HENNESSEY

AT THE end of last season the Melbourne Croatia club held their annual meeting and one of the major talking points was who would coach the well-supported club in 1984.

President Joe Sigur promised members they would have one of the best coaches in Australia but he was not sure where to find him.

The name Terry Hennessey was handed to Sigur whose first reaction was: "Who's he?"

After some hard work in finding out about this coach, the Croatia club decided Hennessey was the man for the job and on Christmas Day he arrived from the United States.



To come to Australia, Hennessey had left behind the chance to coach last year's Soccer Bowl winners, Tulsa Roughnecks, where he had been head coach for three years.

Hennessey's long and distinguished career started way back in 1958 when, as a 16-year-old, he was given the chance to become a professional with top side Birmingham City.

Hennessey took the chance and during that same year, due to a late injury to one of the first team players, he was thrown in at the deep end to make his debut.

His first game was against the legendary Dennis Law and it was this that gave him his first break into the big time.

His first season was a major success as he won a League Cup-winners' medal and also was named Midlands player of the year.

At the age of 18, the skilful central defender won his first international cap for Wales and in the same season played against the great Pele.

This was to be the first of 39 international appearances in which he was captain on 20 occasions.

Looking for success, Hennessey went to progressive Nottingham Forest but the nearest he came to winning a major honour was when he appeared in the semi-final of the F.A.Cup in 1967.

In 1970 Hennessey was approached by Brian Clough and was transferred to Derby County for

\$200,000. He then became the first player to be sold for a six figure (pounds) fee.

He won his major honour, a first division winner's medal in 1972.

At 32, Hennessey was forced to retire from the game due to a horrific injury to his achilles tendon that ended his career.

BY GARY CUTLER

Terry decided that, as his life had been devoted to Soccer, he would like to pass on the knowledge he had gained to the younger players who were to come through to be the stars of the future.

After a season at Tamworth in the Northern Premier League in the UK, he was invited to coach in America and took up the new challenge of assistant coach with Tulsa Roughnecks in the NASL.

Head coach, Alan Hinton, moved on to Seattle Sounders and recommended that Hennessey was the best man for the job.

That proved a good decision as he soon had the players working for each other and the results were beginning to come.

Hennessey, although limited with funds, always felt they had the ability to beat the better sides with hard work and determination.

Last season, after getting away to a slow start winning only two out of the first 10 games, he saw that the signs were there that if he could get a fully fit squad there may be a chance of honours at the end of the campaign.

His thoughts proved to be correct as the team went on to win 20 out of the next 25 games to take them to the play-offs, winning the divisional title for the first time in the history of the club.

They went on to reach the final of the Soccer Bowl where they beat the Toronto Blizzard 2-0.

is only played on a part-time basis and the standard of players is not as high as in the States.

Already he has taken to the task of bringing the best out of the players and they have responded by putting the effort in at training and in the few matches they have played.

Hennessey said: "Australia is a challenge to me that I think I am going to enjoy. The club is very ambitious and we will do well as long as we all pull together."

"There appears to be very little system to the

'WE MUST PULL TOGETHER'

This was a major achievement as Hennessey had worked all season on a shoestring budget and had proved that hard work and good coaching is all it takes to be successful. Although he had a number of top players at the club.

On coming to Australia, Hennessey has had to face up to the fact that Soccer

way the sides play here, many of the players fear to do the things I want but we are working on it and they are beginning to get it together, although I still feel we are short of a couple of top players.

"We have a few in mind and will be ready by the time the season starts in a few week's time."

After having lunch with Terry, one of the things that impressed me about him was his knowledge of the game



□ **DENIS LAW:** Hennessey played his first game against this legendary player



Terry Hennessey in action (right) against Spurs' Martin Chivers in a top First Division match

and the fact that he is such a honest man.

He continued: "All of the people at the club will be well treated by me as long as they are honest and give 100 per cent."

"I played under Brian Clough when I was a player and respect that man very much. He did things that most coaches would not dream of but we all did as he asked and it brought success."

"I hope and think I have the respect of the players and that is a large part of the battle. I don't believe a coach should rule by discipline alone but respect is an important factor."

So he will soon be left to face his first season in Australia and the big question is: how will Croatia fare in 1984?

My opinion is that if the club buy the players he wants, they could well be in with a shout at the end of the season.

And looking further ahead, with the knowledge of the game and his approach and attitude, one name we will hear a lot of in the future is Terry Hennessey.



□ **BRIAN CLOUGH**



AROUND NEW SOUTH WALES

ALI EL ZEIN: A DEDICATED PROFESSIONAL

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

FOR the tenth year in succession, Canterbury-Marrickville goalkeeper Ali El Zein will be wearing the blue and gold colours.

A quietly spoken man, El Zein has decided to return to the game following a premature retirement late last season.

A goalkeeper for the Berries for the last 10 years, Ali changed his mind during his honeymoon three weeks ago. Passing a game of Soccer in Fiji was enough to inspire his return to the top grade.

El Zein migrated to Australia at the youthful age of 20—but not before he enjoyed a successful two-year period in Lebanese Soccer.

"I played in the first division in Beirut for The Star team. At the time they were the most successful side in Lebanon and well-known throughout Europe," El Zein said.

When he arrived in Australia he was asked to trial with APIA. The

coach at the time is also the current coach of Leichhardt, Fil Bottalico.

Dissatisfaction struck El Zein on the way to the trial. He was involved in a head-on car crash and couldn't train or play for three months.

When he regained fitness he joined second division club Enmore but left at the end of the season to sign up with Canterbury.

During his first year he was understudy to the first grade keeper. The following year he was in and out of the first grade team.

The only other time that he hasn't been in the first grade side all year was when Alex McPherson, now with Melita, was the first-choice keeper.

During his career at Canterbury-Marrickville he has played with some household names in NSW

Soccer: Peter Katholos, Neil Williams, Ross Brown, Jim Ziras, Greg Byles and more recently Jim Basterfield and Chris Thamnidis.

In recent years two coaches stand out vividly to El Zein.

"Current coach John Xipolitas, whom I played with when I first started at Canterbury, always pushes me to do my best.

"Personally, when we had Australian representative goalkeeper Ron Corry coaching us I think I had my best year at Canterbury. He could get you to do things you would think weren't possible," El Zein said.

Ali El Zein is a complete professional. His lightning fast reflexes and agility more than make up for his lack in height. He deserves every success



□ CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE 1983: BACK ROW (from left): Basterfield, Anagnostopoulos, Zivkovic, Theodorakopoulos, Binos, Georgiou, Laws. FRONT ROW: Demetriou, Vassiliou, El Zein, Hantzis, Thamnidis, Antonopoulos.

INEXPERIENCE WON'T HOLD BERRIES BACK

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

CANTERBURY-MARRICKVILLE will once again adopt a youth policy in the development of their first grade side for the coming season.

Last year the club finished ninth in the First Division of the NSW State League but recorded some upset victories over more fancied opponents.

This year the club is destined to be without three of their most experienced players. Derek Laing, Billy Palmer and Jim Basterfield have failed to come to terms.

Laing is seeking a sign-on fee which the club is not prepared to pay. Palmer is keen to play in the NSL and has been trialing with Blacktown City, while Basterfield wants to play for a local amateur team in the Sutherland district.

The future of two of their talented young players, midfielder Bill Vas-

siliou and striker Nick Theodorakopoulos, has not been settled.

Both players trialed with Heidelberg in the close-season and an offer has been made for Vassiliou. Theodorakopoulos has been linked with Sydney Olympic and a couple of other Sydney clubs in the NSL but he hasn't signed for any club yet.

No doubt the bargain of the season for the club was the capture of both Paul Joanidis and Loui Dounis from Sydney Olympic.

Both players have played in representative schoolboy sides and last year they played in the Sydney Olympic youth team. Since they both signed white forms and were not on the retaining

list they were placed on free transfer.

Dounis has emerged a replacement for Theodorakopoulos in the central striking position. In the first round of the Ampol Cup against Rockdale, he scored two fine opportunist goals for the Berries.

Rumours that keeper Ali El Zein was to leave the club during the off-season were buried after El Zein turned out for the Berries in the Ampol Cup competition.

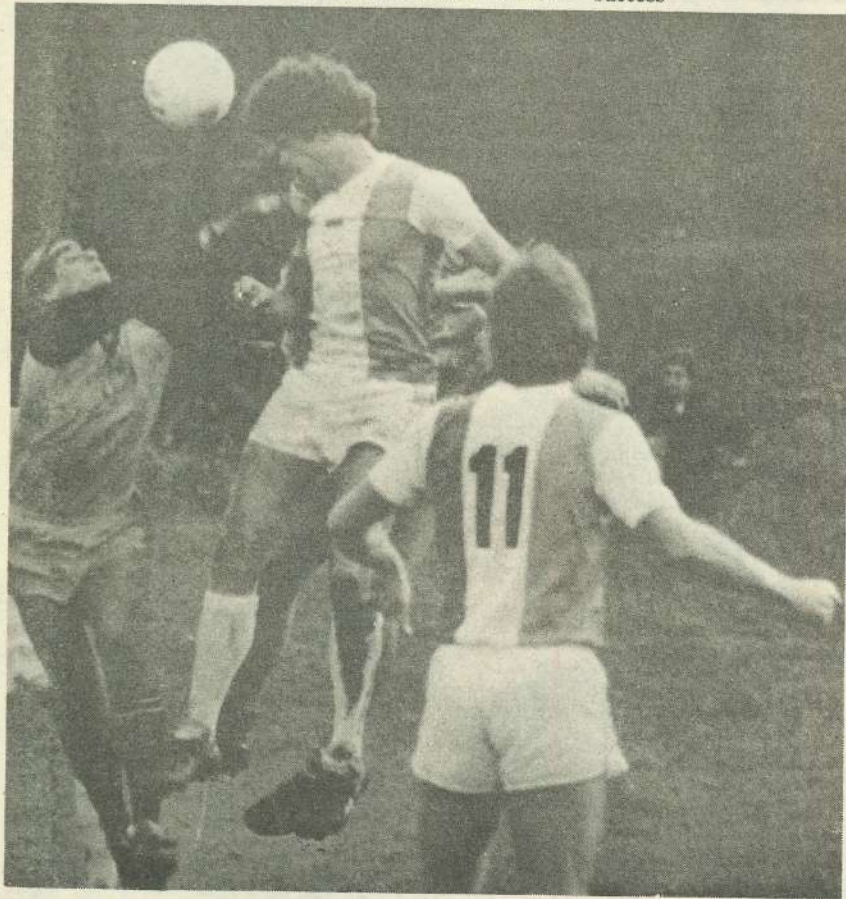
A position in the team that must be filled quickly is sweeper. Young left-back Spiro Hantzis, a utility player in the defence, played in this spot in the first round of the Ampol Cup but his lack of height caused him problems.

Hantzis was one of the finds of the 1983 season and impressed with his hard running, distribution and tackling.

One player that caught the eye during his days in the Youth League competition, John Pettas, returns to the club after a two-year absence with a crippling knee injury.

John Xipolitas, coach for the second successive year, is fairly pleased at this stage of the season.

"We have discipline in our youthful midfield and forward line but our defence is a worry right now. We have quality players in Laws, Hantzis, Antonopoulos and Fokis but their lack of height is a problem," Xipolitas said.



□ ALI EL ZEIN (left) challenges Croatia's Graham Arnold

JOHN DOYLE TO COACH

JOHN DOYLE has been appointed coach of Belmore-Canterbury State League Second Division club.

Belmore-Canterbury has been formed as an offshoot of the big Canterbury & Districts Soccer Football Association after Belmore had carried an ever-increasing load by themselves for many years.

Doyle is an excellent choice, having been in one Australian national team on tour.

He was a leading goalscorer with APIA-Leichhardt and Croatia after coming down from Newcastle.

He is extremely well-known for his work with juniors and is the director of coaching for Star Soc-

cer Camps.

For the past two years he has done an excellent job as the skills instructor on the Channel 0/28 Captain Soccerroo programme.

Having lived in the Campsie area for many years, he is right on the spot to direct the club's playing resources.

In addition he is a high school mathematics master at Bankstown Boys.

Belmore-Canterbury's coaching sessions are at Steele Park, Illawarra Rd, Marrickville South every Tuesday and Thursday night. For information contact club official Dale A. Kellett 76 6426.



□ JOHN DOYLE

YUGAL OVERCOME INJURY SETBACK

BY ANDREW PASCHALIDIS

NSW STATE League club Yugal have basically the same 1983 squad for the ensuing season.

Last year the club was plagued by injuries to the first grade team and this resulted in their poor standing.

Success came in patches for the club, with victories over Inter-Monaro, Croatia and Ku-ring-gai standing out.

Last year's player-coach Tom Mihaljovic has returned to Yugoslavia to gain a coaching degree and bring back two or three top-rate players for 1985.

The new coach for this year is Steve Decesvski. He represented Yugoslavia 24 times, and played for Prague in the early 60s in the side that won the Australia Cup.

Two players who suffered serious injuries last year have been back at training.

Fred Cummings played left-back for Yugal in their 2-0 win over War-ringham-Narrabeen in the

Ampol Cup.

John Karacan is recovering from a broken leg and he will probably make an appearance early in the season.

Les Babian and Micky Rendell will not be playing for Yugal this year. Rendell hasn't fully recovered from a broken leg he received last season, and Babian has decided to stop playing this year.

Amanyi Rokodera and Dennis McGrath have decided to return to the club after leaving midway through last season.

McGrath was playing in second grade last year but during the off-season he has trained hard and looks slimmer and fitter.

Rokodera had personal problems with the club and committee, but he has returned and will play in the central striking position.

The only other player missing from Ampol Cup

appearances is Dave McIntosh. He has been training with Penrith City, but no firm commitment has been made by the NSL club.

Lugo Zivkovic, who was signed from Yugoslavia last season, will be playing in the central midfield position.

The main strength in the team is the defence.

Mark Turkoglu, a front-runner in the Rothmans award before he was sent off last year, accompanies centre-backs John Clarke, David Forrester and left-

back Fred Cummings.

The goalkeeping department looks very strong. Peter Berry and Mitch Wotton, who filled in admirably for Berry midway through the season, will be fighting hard for this important position.

This year Yugal should record a few upset wins over their more fancied opponents. They have an experienced squad mixed with youthful talent that will surprise many people.



DAVE MCINTOSH: missing



MITCH WOTTON: fighting

GLADESVILLE TIES KNOT

BY KEITH GILMOUR

THE MERGER of Gladesville-Hornsby and the Gladesville Ravens club means that this big Soccer district at last has a major senior club.

The new club will play as Gladesville-Hornsby in the NSW State League Second Division.

A successful senior club connected to the local juniors has long been an ambition of many administrators in the local association.

The change came about as the Ravens, always tremendous triers, found that maintaining a presence in a high division was outstripping their resources.

The new club will play in the gold and black of Gladesville-Hornsby.

The Association has donated \$5,000 to the new club. It is a one-off gift at this stage.

Their position will be reviewed after progress is evaluated for the coming year.

The players will remain on an amateur basis whilst the club is in Second Division.

Leading officials are: president Paul Slater; vice-presidents George Hodgekiss and Bill Cullinan; secretary Bob Wylie (85 7302); treasurer Martin Collins; competition secretary John Woodford.

Coach Keith Piper has previously handled Melita Eagles second team and the very successful Auburn third grade.

The home ground will be Pioneer Park, Marsfield, adjacent to the Epping Highway.



ROOTY HILL GO AHEAD

HAVING finished an unlucky third in Inter-Urban Division 1 in 1983, Rooty Hill Soccer Club (formerly Eastern Creek) plan to leave no stone unturned in a bid for promotion to full State League status in 1984.

Early indications are that the club should go close to achieving its goal.

With the completion of their clubhouse (pictured above), the club now enjoys excellent facilities and will in 1984 be meeting expenses for first grade players.

With the acceptance of the club's name change by the Blacktown Associa-

tion, junior and all-age teams will be playing in the local league for the first time since 1981.

This move should clearly prove to be to the club's benefit as they become more widely known in the area which they foster.

Successful John Jancek has been appointed coach for the coming season.

JIRSA SIGNS FOR UNITED

BY PHIL MURPHY

WOLLONGONG UNITED coach John Bingham has lured winger David Jirsa back to the club, via India and Pakistan.

Jirsa played with Bingham at United four years ago when they won the Sydney Second Division grand final, but Jirsa then had a season with Polonia before heading off on a working holiday overseas.

A teacher, Jirsa has now taken a part-time job in the Wollongong area and is training with United.

Bingham knows just what a dangerous player Jirsa was and he is hoping the talented winger will regain his old form.

Another teacher, Harry Sattin, is back with United after playing only limited games with the club last season.

Sattin was appointed to the Canberra region then, but is now back in Wollongong and showing up well at training.

Bingham's other early season signing is goalkeeper Jeff Robinson, from Shellharbour. Robinson will be a solid back-up keeper from Peter Terziovski.

Bingham coached Shellharbour last season and has also signed striker Barney King from his old club.

King has been a regular goal-getter in Illawarra and gets his chance to take some of the State

League Second Division defences by surprise this season.

chance to claim his place in the top side.

Young has decided to try his luck with St George in the NSL and will be keeping up a family tradition.

His older brother, Craig, is the Rugby League international and he also wears the St George colours.

Former Wollongong City youth team goalkeeper Ashley Cooper has been training with Fairy Meadow and looks the main opposition to Krajnovic.

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AHEARN BENEFIT DAY



BY GREG RUSSELL

A MATCH between Brisbane City and a Gold Coast select will be the main event of a benefit day on February 26 for former Australian Youth goalkeeper Glenn Ahearn.

Ahearn, 21, lost his father and sister, and was critically injured himself, in a car accident in Northern New South Wales over the Christmas-New Year period.

It is unlikely Ahearn will play top level Soccer again.

Gold Coast Soccer clubs, where Ahearn began his career, have rallied behind the youngster and his mother and the benefit day is set to be a huge success.

A day-long programme of entertainment has

been organised by the Gold Coast Soccer Association and local Apex clubs.

The benefit day, for which everyone will pay \$2 admission, will be staged from 8am at the Carrara Sports Ground. All proceeds will go to the Ahearn family.

The programme includes junior and women's matches, a family concert and a charity game between the Gold Coast superstars and the media as a curtain raiser to the City match.

The superstars team will feature former Soccer internationals now living on the Coast. Former City coach Jim Hermiston will play.

Brisbane City are sending a full strength team and should be given a testing workout by the Coast side which will include local heroes like John Marshall, Col Hertzog, Stephen Ball and Dennis Dods.

■■■

While Sydney's NSL teams already have had the benefit of Super Challenge Cup matches, Queensland's two NSL sides must wait until the end of the month before the major pre-season competition kicks-off.

The Queensland Soccer Federation is once again staging its \$6000 XXXX pre-season competition at Perry Park, but the starting date is not until February 24.

And that is only a week before City and Lions clash in an NSL Cup first round match.

City won the inaugural XXXX competition last season, thrashing Lions 6-1 in the final.

The QSF management committee has worked out a new format for the competition, and will announce the draw next week.

The competition drew a lot of criticism last year when some teams got only two games, and had no chance of reaching the semi-finals after losing their first match.

While the tournament will overlap with the opening month of the NSL season, City and Lions are happy to play two games a week, to hopefully catch up the lost ground they have given to their Southern rivals.

In the meantime both

clubs are anxiously organising trial matches.

City also have entered the Grange Thistle pre-season competition while Lions have opted instead for a three-day camp on the Gold Coast.

■■■

QUEENSLAND Soccer is set to benefit this year from an ambitious marketing programme.

QSF Marketing Pty Ltd has been formed and will derive additional income for the code by licensing the Federation's new modern logo.

The marketing programme was originated last season, but with the QSF's Centenary celebrations, was pushed into the background.

But despite the limited promotion it received, QSF marketing has al-



ready entered into five agreements, ranging from sportswear and Soccer balls to an official photographer.

A glossy pamphlet explaining QSF marketing has been distributed throughout the state and the scheme is set to take-off.

"We have had a lot of reaction but we are being choosy to ensure the logo is attached to only quality products. Once the clubs fully understand the scheme we expect it to be an outstanding success," a Federation official said.

ILLAWARRA JOTTINGS

BY PHIL MURPHY

BOB EVANS has been appointed coach of Warilla Wanderers and last season's grand final runners-up are getting a handy squad together.

Evans is keen to sign Phil Mowbray from Fairy Meadow and he is also likely to have John Sokoloski in his line-up.

Mowbray would certainly strengthen the Warilla midfield and his experience would be a big asset to the younger players.

Sokoloski was with West-Figtree last season and has a happy knack of getting goals.

Ironically, Sokoloski seemed to play well in games against Warilla!

Fernhill have signed full-back Brian Midgley and he will provide a bit more strength to their back-four.

Last season, Fernhill scored enough goals to make the semi-finals but conceded far too many and missed out.

Former Bellambi winger Mark Simpson is also training with Fernhill and coach Gerry Walker is pleased with the early season training roll-up.

Walker said he has been averaging around 30 players a session and makes no secret of the fact Fernhill won't be missing out on a semi-final berth this year.

■■■

LYSAGHT'S coach Wally Miller is the club's first casualty of 1984.

Miller has had a cartilage removed, but is back supervising training and giving his players plenty of work.

Miller returned from Armidale just before his spell in hospital where he helped Willie Wallace with his annual coaching clinics.

Last season Miller handled the Wollongong City Youth squad under Wallace and they have been friends since their schooldays.

■■■

AFTER being promoted to premier league in the off-season, Dapto will be playing their home games on Dapto Showground this year.

Dapto have become something of an enigma in Illawarra Soccer over the years, having spent plenty of money trying to buy success.

Club president Tommy Kay, who has been appointed to the Association committee this year, says the club is looking forward to a big season.

"Being able to play our home games at the Showground is a big plus and this has been brought about by co-operation with Dapto Leagues Club and the Dapto Football Club," he said.

"We have to arrange our games on alternate weekends to the Rugby League team, but at least opposing teams can look forward to playing on a decent surface."

Dapto's previous home base was Lakelands Oval — a ground that is well below the standard required for premier league matches.

Hugh Tinney will have his third season as first grade coach at Dapto and could surprise a few people when he finalises his squad.

Tinney has a good knowledge of the Illawarra scene and is tipped to have at least three new players when the premiership starts.

ALCAN AIDS PRE-SEASON

BY MYLES HAY

ALCAN Australia will sponsor a pre-season competition to be staged at Weston Park over an eight-week period and involving the Northern NSW first and second division sides.

Played on a round robin basis each Friday night and Sunday, the series will prove a tremendous match fitness booster for the players.

The eventual winners will receive \$1,000 and the runners up \$250, while the two finalists will also be presented with a set of shirts in their colours from the Cessnock Sports Centre.

One absentee from the series will be the first division side from the Tamworth area, due to the travelling distance and time involved.

■■■

THE unrelated Turnbolls, John and Jack have taken over the coaching reins of the famous Weston club on a joint basis for the 1984 season.

John J. Turnbull, one of the club's most prolific

goalscorers moved to Adamstown Rosebuds last season but has returned to Weston, though he states he will not play with so many promising youngsters knocking at the door for first team positions.

On the other hand, long serving midfielder Jack Turnbull will turn out for the side and endeavour to cement his place in the team.

Weston has gained the services of former Adamstown goalkeeper Clint Jenkins to take over from the retired Robbie Lasance.

Andy Johns, named the 'Player of the Year' last season, has looked sharp in training and trial matches and the former Welsh Youth international should again prove a threat for opposing defenders.

ADELAIDE CUT-PRICE PLAN

BY TOM McKAIN

ADELAIDE CITY are taking a gamble by offering fans half-price Soccer in an effort to regain the crowds which packed Adelaide's two stadiums when national Soccer was launched in 1977.

The club will pre-sell stand tickets for its opening two NSL matches at \$2 a head — provided the tickets are bought before the day of the match.

The club has to kick off its season away from its Olympic Sports Field home, as the SA Amateur Athletics Association still has a summer lease on the ground.

City will play two games at Norwood Oval, an Australian Rules ground in the same area as Olympic Sports Field.

"We have talked about ways of pulling back the fans, and perhaps reducing the price is it," said City football manager Bob D'Ottavi.

"In the old days you could count on 1,000 City fans at West Adelaide games and vice versa.

"Last season there were only a handful who supported both clubs.

"Now we hope to get a lot of the neutrals back as well as our own people, who have perhaps found the \$4 a head, and an extra dollar for the stand, too much in these days of high unemployment."

And if the half-price plan works then City will continue the gimmick when they return to their own ground.

"The way we look at it is that we are better off with 8,000 people at \$2 at time than 3,000 at \$4,"

said D'Ottavi.

"And we are hoping that State League club fans will role up under the new NSL format.

"We are certain Croatian followers will come to see us play Melbourne Croatia."

City will sell the \$2 tickets at various outlets as well as at their club-rooms, and will also ask West and State League clubs to sell tickets.

"We will be willing to sell tickets for West's home games if they want to follow the same plan," said D'Ottavi.

While the SA Federation would love to see crowds increase, even for NSL clubs, they are not

happy with City for hiring Norwood Oval instead of Hindmarsh Stadium, as they did in previous seasons for early NSL matches.

Hindmarsh is the SA Federation HQ and the extra cash was welcome.

However, City claims that by the time they paid expenses and percentages to the Federation and Hindmarsh Council it cost them \$3,000.

"We can hire Norwood, and that includes the bar facilities, for \$800," he said.

While Norwood is not a Soccer ground, it has more covered seating than Olympic Sports Field or Hindmarsh Stadium, and was used for the Ampol Cup night series before the Federation acquired Hindmarsh.



□ BRIAN McBurnie, president of Lavington SC in Albury

ALBURY TO LIGHT UP

BY FRANK FINLAY

ALBURY's Lavington Soccer Oval should become the Wembley Stadium of the NSW-Victoria Border area.

The newly-elected president of the club, Mr Brian McBurnie, said that floodlights, meeting the requirements of the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation and FIFA, have been installed, and the oval will become the only one of its kind in the area.

"Burnie" is an addicted victim of Soccer, especially when it comes to juniors. Outspoken at the Albury-Wodonga Soccer Association's delegates meeting,

he does not pull any punches.

He is stubborn and a true dyed-in-the-wool Englishman when Soccer is in question.

He and Frank Bertazzo, a foundation member and senior vice-president, are to be congratulated for their teamwork to make the Lavington Soccer Club the most well-equipped, progressive and modern club in the Border District.

ROVERS MEN QUIT

BY GARY CUTLER

HUGH MURNEY and Joe Docherty have quit their respective positions at the helm of the Albion Rovers club.

The decision was announced after the side were beaten by Broadmeadows in the Buffalo Cup.

Team manager Joe Docherty said: "The club have put a lot of money into improving the ground and the building of the new changing rooms at Selwyn Park.

"This was badly needed but unfortunately this has left the club very short of funds; no allowance has been made for the rebuilding of the team.

"We were set a task by the committee at the start of the season to keep the team in the State League without spending much money.

"It is unfortunate but we just cannot expect the players to play for less money than they can get elsewhere," said Joe.

Albion president George Bryce is believed

to have been fully behind Murney and Docherty but was unable to persuade the rest of the committee that the club needed to improve the team if they were to be a force this season.

On the brighter side, the club have now acquired new dressing-rooms and a better playing surface. With these facilities, perhaps next season they will have the finances available to challenge for the honours that have been missing from the club for too long.

BROADMEADOWS, the new Victorian State League side, are on the hunt for players. On the shopping list to strengthen the team are a central defender, a full-back, a midfielder and a good striker... but all teams in Australia are looking for a good striker.

DEAN HENNESSEY, son of Melbourne Croatia coach Terry, has left the Albion Rovers club.

He has informed the committee that he will no longer be attending their training sessions and is not willing to play in any more of the Buffalo Cup games.

The club are believed to have made him an offer and the terms were acceptable, only for the committee to change their minds about the money — therefore Hennessey has decided that it is time for him to leave the club.

Last season Hennessey was one of the most consistent players at Albion and was the winner of the young player of the year award.

Clubs interested in the skilful central defender can contact him on 772 9710.

Rumour has it that he will not be the only player wanting to move from the club due to the lack of funds and the Rovers may

DOCKERTY CUP BLASTS OFF

BY GARY CUTLER

THERE is a feast of Soccer in Victoria next weekend for the most enthusiastic of supporters who want an evening or afternoon out with the family.

All Victorian teams will be on show at some stage over the weekend, and the VSF Centenary Year is well underway.

This year's Dockerty Cup competition kicks off on Sunday with the first preliminary round.

But the amazing thing about the first round is there are more teams going into the next round courtesy of a bye than will actually have to beat an opponent.

Eight games will be played, while no fewer than 24 teams will go through without kicking

a ball.

One of the reasons for the strange draw is that there will be only 32 teams left after this round.

But surely they could have made it a little fairer, or even played an extra round and involved more teams.

The games to be played are as follows (all kick off at 3 pm):

Doncaster Rovers v Ferntree Gully

Lalor utd v Springvale City

Moorabin City v Coburg

Brighton v Prahran

Port Melbourne v North Dandenong

Sunbury Utd v East Brunswick

Altona City v Nunawading City

Werribee v Sandringham

There is a full round of Buffalo Cup games next weekend with all Victorian State League teams having only a few more games to get into gear for the start of the season.

The Sunday games (kick-off 3 pm) are as follows: Section A:

Frankston Pines v Box

Hill
Ringwood city v Northcote City
Doveton v Knox City
Section B:
Polonia v St Albans
Fawkner v Broadmeadows
Morwell Falcons v Western Suburbs
Albion Rovers bye
The Buffalo Gold Summer Cup continues with all teams taking part in two nights of solid action at Olympic Park on Friday and Saturday.

Friday Night will see Section B in action, with two of the NSL newcomers, Melbourne Croatia and Juventus, taking on two of the old hands, Heidelberg and Preston respectively.

The following evening games will be played in Section A, with State League side Croydon City taking on the mighty South Melbourne and Footscray taking on the impressive Green Gully.

The first game will commence at 7.30 pm on each night.

CROATIA HARD-PRESSED TO MATCH WEST

BY TOM McKAIN

CROATIA get a chance to fly the State League flag tomorrow night when they take on NSL club West Adelaide in the SA Ampol Cup series.

But after struggling last week to hold Polonia to a 1-1 draw, Croatia will find it hard going against the strengthened West.

The latter sunk Azzurri 1-0 on opening night and have full-back Ian McGregor, midfielders David Doorne and Steve Atsalas and striker Steve Papadopoulos, available this week after missing the opening round.

In the other match tomorrow, Birkalla, after

shocking League champions Beograd 1-1, take on Para Hills, who crashed 4-0 to NSL side Adelaide City last week.

Birks played a containing game against Beograd, but showed enough talent to suggest they will be able to humble Para, who were no match for City.

Para slumped in the last two night series then came back to shake up the winter league, and it

looks like being a similar story this year.

Minus suspended striker Joe Mullen, City still ran rings round the district side last week, with Peter Rankin the scoring hero with three goals and a 'assist' for midfielder Charley Villani.

But City coach Edmund Kreft's troops are spread thin with Mullen the only experienced player to come into the side for the next round.

However, at this stage it looks like the two NSL teams for the final.

Holdens Azzurri beat City in the clincher last year, but they are not looking positive this time out, and if there is going to be an upset it may come from Croatia.

They swarmed all over Polonia, but Paul Blute was the only scorer, in the second half. Steve Witwiki grabbed the equaliser for Polonia.

Had they taken all their chances Croatia would have been up with the leaders.

Results so far:

GROUP A					GROUP B				
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	T	S
West	1	1	0	0	1	0	2		
Croatia	1	0	1	0	1	1			
Polonia	1	0	1	0	1	1			
Azzurri	1	0	0	1	0	1	0		
Adel C.	1	1	0	0	4	0	2		
Beograd	1	0	1	0	1	1			
Birkalla	1	0	1	0	1	1			
Para	1	0	0	1	0	4	0		

□ STEVE ATSALAS



□ IAN MCGREGOR: available

Birkalla 1 Beograd 1;
West 1 Azzurri 0.
Croatia 1 Polonia 1;
Adelaide City 4 Para 0.

KEEP THEM COMING

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY has an unsatiable appetite for your news stories and pictures which can cover team photographs and all aspects of junior and schools Soccer.

Keep them coming to ASW, P.O. Box 406, Broadway NSW 2007. We want to publicise your activities.



PHIL'S MADE HIS MARK IN THREE YEARS

BY DON BALMAIN

THE quietly — spoken Welshman who was recently elected as president of the NSW Women's Federation, could be aptly dubbed "the quiet achiever".

Phil Whitcombe grew up in Wales in the atmosphere of Soccer and could hardly miss becoming involved.

His uncle played for Wales as captain, and young Phil had an idol when he was just a lad playing on the local pitches.

An only child, he was encouraged to follow the code and soon made his mark in his mid-teens.

Eventually he was noticed and was named to play for the Under 18 Welsh side.

Unfortunately, conscription interrupted what could have been an inspired career as a footballer. During his term of duty in the Middle East, Phil played for the British

Army.

Having a taste for the heat over there whetted his appetite for warmer climates and Phil migrated to Australia.

Once in Sydney, Phil wasted no time in getting set up in a Soccer club in the Artarmon district on Sydney's north shore.

Phil played with the northside club for a number of years before moving to the Holroyd area in the western suburbs of Sydney.

He became interested in women's Soccer whilst still playing when several of the sides who were in opposition to his club had teams of girls who played the occasional game.

From observing the girls playing in the Gran-

ville district, Phil could see that not very much was being done for them as far as continual competition was concerned.

He called a meeting three years ago to form the Holroyd Women's Soccer Association and had more than 100 interested people attend.

There was no trouble in obtaining sufficient girls to form teams in this Soccer-starved area.

Within a very short time, the Holroyd Association was off and running with 32 teams.

Phil was elected unopposed as the initial president when the Holroyd Association first started, and this year, he has been elected again after gaining an unopposed vote.

An unassuming man to speak to, Phil says that he had no idea that he would end up as president when he first attended the NSW Council meetings two years ago.

In his own words: "I just wanted to make sure that Holroyd got the best deal that was going."

After a term last year as senior vice-president in which turbulence in the Federation was causing unrest, Phil decided to stand for election as president this year.

Phil says that he has a young and enthusiastic team of management behind him to put his Federation back together again and that his policy would be to have the Federation run itself under his guidance.

Asked if he could give some indication of changes in the present set-up, Phil said that he felt that the Metropolitan

League, which was started last season, had to be a must for progress.

He said that he could see it taking over from the inter-district championships and felt that, properly introduced and publicised, could be the way for women's Soccer to become more popular.

He thought that an ideal time for it would be on a Sunday afternoon.

Family trials have not been without anxiety for Phil.

His daughter, Kim, contracted Perthes Disease when she was small and affected her legs.

Love and devotion by an understanding family paid off as Kim played in the Australian Nationals for NSW in Perth last year and scored in her first game.

Phil says that he has the full support of his family who are very Soccer-oriented.



Phil Whitcombe

SOUTH AUSSIES BOUNCING BACK

BY DON BALMAIN

WITH many of the Soccer girls still playing summer sports, news from the women's scene is still sparse.

However, one of the State associations which had a lean year in 1983 — South Australia — seems certain to make amends in 1984 and regain their rightful place in the national scene.

Unfortunately, their live-wire publicity officer, Moya Dodd, studying hard at the Adelaide University, will not be with them this year due to increased study.

When she was doing the publicity, welcome inroads were made in hitherto untapped sources.

She was able to get scores and match reports in the Advertiser, a leading paper in Adelaide, as well as having results broadcast.

Moya says that by having media coverage, much of the public were informed of the Soccer girls' activities.

So much so that for the inaugural State championships held in August, one of the television stations covered the event and another channel covered the semi-finals the following week.

Miss Sanja Martens, the president of the South Australian Women's Association, was present at the biannual conference of the Australian Association held in Sydney in January and I spoke to her about the South Australian situation.

She said that a lot of their trouble last year was not having sufficient administrators to cover the State scene.

A lot of people have got behind her this year, she said, and she expected SA to bounce back to what it was two years ago.

She said that there was every indication of increased membership due to the excellent publicity last year.

ASW will be concentrating more on personality stories on the women this year.

We would also like to publish match results and competition tables for you.

If you have somebody interesting in your association about whom we could write a story, drop us a line.

We will do the rest.

OXLEY HS GIRLS REACHED FINAL

ALTHOUGH girls' Soccer has only just been established at Oxley High School in Tamworth, their team reached the Ku-ring-gai Cup final from amongst 200 high schools in NSW.

In fact the girls are the only team from the school to play in a State final in any sport.

They bettered the record of the boys' Soccer team from the school, which made the Tasman Cup (now Commonwealth Bank Soccer Cup) semi-finals a couple of seasons back.

There must have been some latent talent amongst the Oxley girls. In the school's first year in the Ku-ring-gai Cup it managed to reach the quarter-finals before being knocked out by eventual winners, Marsden High School.

In 1981 Oxley went out in extra-time to Beacon Hill High from Manly-Warringah district, but they made the final 16.

Then in 1982 they strengthened further. Semi-finalists, they were defeated 1-0 by Kirrawee from the Sutherland area.

This year they put a lot of time into their build-up and it paid off. Oxley entered the local U17 girls competition and won 22 of their 23 matches.

The girls and their teacher-manager Rod Tudball have reason to be pleased even though they ended up losing the final, played at Marconi Stadium in Sydney, by 1-2 to Newcastle's Gateshead HS.

Oxley peppered the Gateshead goal in the first half, but Gateshead came back to dominate the second half.

OXLEY GIRLS IN PROFILE

Barbara Webster: Team captain and Northern NSW Open rep. Most experienced player and one who impressed selectors at the 1982 Australian women's championships. Centre-back.

Heather Gordon: Northern NSW U-17 rep. Her slight build belies her mobility and strength. She was the form player in the local TWSA competition and will assume captaincy of the team in 1984. Centre-half.

Karen Lambert: Northern NSW U-17 rep. Karen was the top goal-scorer in the local competition despite having played many games as goalkeeper. Her speed and ability to handle the ball in the air make her a dangerous attacker. Centre-forward.

Pip Campbell: Northern NSW U-15

was illustrated by her rapid adjustment to Soccer in 1982 and she continued this adaption in 1983. Tenacity and intelligent distribution along with good skills make her a valuable midfielder.

Michelle Smith: Northern NSW U-15 rep. Despite her undoubted abilities as a field player, Michelle is an agile and reliable goalie who has been able to assume the custodian's role because of the availability of new attacking players.

Alison Clarence: Tamworth U-17 rep. Her first year of Soccer but on her performances she must have been very unlucky to miss State selection. One of the most consistent players in the team with rapidly developing ball skills. Midfield.

Barbara Crossley: Tamworth U-17 rep. Unlucky not to gain higher rep honours last year. From her reserve status in last year's team, Barbara has developed into a very aggressive and strong-tackling back who will be vital for the 1984 defence.

Joanne Cathcart: Tamworth U-17 rep. In her first year of Soccer Joanne appears to have assumed a defensive role playing as either a back or half where her determination has halted many attacking movements.

Kim Connolly: Tamworth U-17 rep. Another first season player with good skills who will improve further with gained experience in positional play. Slight in build but very mobile. Half or forward.

Pauline Atallah: Proving to be a very strong defender.

Cathy Meldrum: Tamworth U-17 rep. Although hockey will always be her No 1 sport, Kathy is an extremely mobile and aggressive winger who's acceleration has caught many defences by surprise.

Debbie Adams: Another hockey player who relies on tremendous speed and her physical strength rather than traditional Soccer skills to get where she is going.

Sharon Lobsey: Was the only year 7 student in the team, Sharon showed tremendous dedication and enthusiasm in her first season of Soccer. Performing a utility role for the team.

Michelle Storch: Versatile sportswoman with great stamina and surprising aggressive qualities despite her slim build. Has the uncanny ability to dispossess players and set up inside supports very quickly. Winger.

Women in Soccer



AUSTRALIA'S WOMEN INTERNATIONALS



2. LEIGH WARDELL



BY JOHN ECONOMOS

THIS week we look at another of Australia's top strikers who did battle last November in New Caledonia for the first Oceania Cup.

She is the 20-year-old from West Pymble NSW, Miss Leigh Wardell.

Leigh ended the tournament as joint top goalscorer with Australia's experienced midfielder, Miss Cindy Heydon.

Both girls hit the target four times out of a total of 18 goals scored by Australia.

Leigh is a very quiet type of girl, and is very rarely heard. She would rather do all her talking through her boots.

One goal I saw her score was against New Caledonia. Leigh brilliantly sent her defender the wrong way. She quickly cut inside and, from 12 metres out, curled a lovely, delicate inswinger that left the New Caledonian goalkeeper clutching the air as the ball sailed into the net.

In the next game, Leigh helped herself to a hat-trick in Australia's 13-0 win over Fiji.

PERSONAL BRIEF

BORN: September 23, 1960.

BIRTHPLACE: Arncliffe, Sydney.

HEIGHT: 5' 4.

TEAMS PLAYED FOR: West Pymble, Lindfield, Lane Cove, Epping, Eastwood, Australia.

PLAYING POSITION: Striker or midfielder.

OCCUPATION: Draughts-person.

FAVOURITE OTHER PLAYER: Trixie Tagg.

FAVOURITE MALE PLAYER: Murray Barnes of Sydney City.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYER: Pele and Eusebio.

AMBITIONS: To be successful in her job, and to become a better player with time for her club as well as for Australia.

PLAYED FOR AUSTRALIA: Since 1978.

MOST MEMORABLE MATCH: The final match in Darwin in the Australian Championships, when NSW had to win 2-0 against WA. I put my head down and steamed through to score both goals for NSW. That gave me a real thrill.

HOW CAN AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S SOCCER BE IMPROVED?: Better quality coaches at club level. Too many unqualified and inexperienced coaches are involved in the game.

SERIOUS INJURIES: Torn cruciate ligaments which required six months weight-training in the gym.

DISLIKES IN SOCCER: Some bad administrators and some of the dirty players that play our game. They are more intent on injuring others than playing the game properly.

OBVIOUS REMEDIES: Much stricter penalties and refereeing. Also for more professional people in Soccer to get involved in our code and help us lift our overall standards.

SLATER'S DRIVING AMBITION

MORE and more keen younger players are setting out with the ambition of playing for leading Australian Soccer clubs.

As standards of football improve and the effect of programmes such as the Australian Institute of Sport and the World Youth Cup have their effect, more enthusiasm for Soccer is generated.

In no other game can a player look to playing against such a host of overseas countries.

Despite this, players from the schools and juniors in all States hear continually about the deeds of the big overseas Soccer clubs.

For some it is the land of their birth or perhaps their parents' birth. For others it is some place a long plane journey away, that has ceased to mean near as much as Australia, the country of their birth where their forebears have been for a long time.

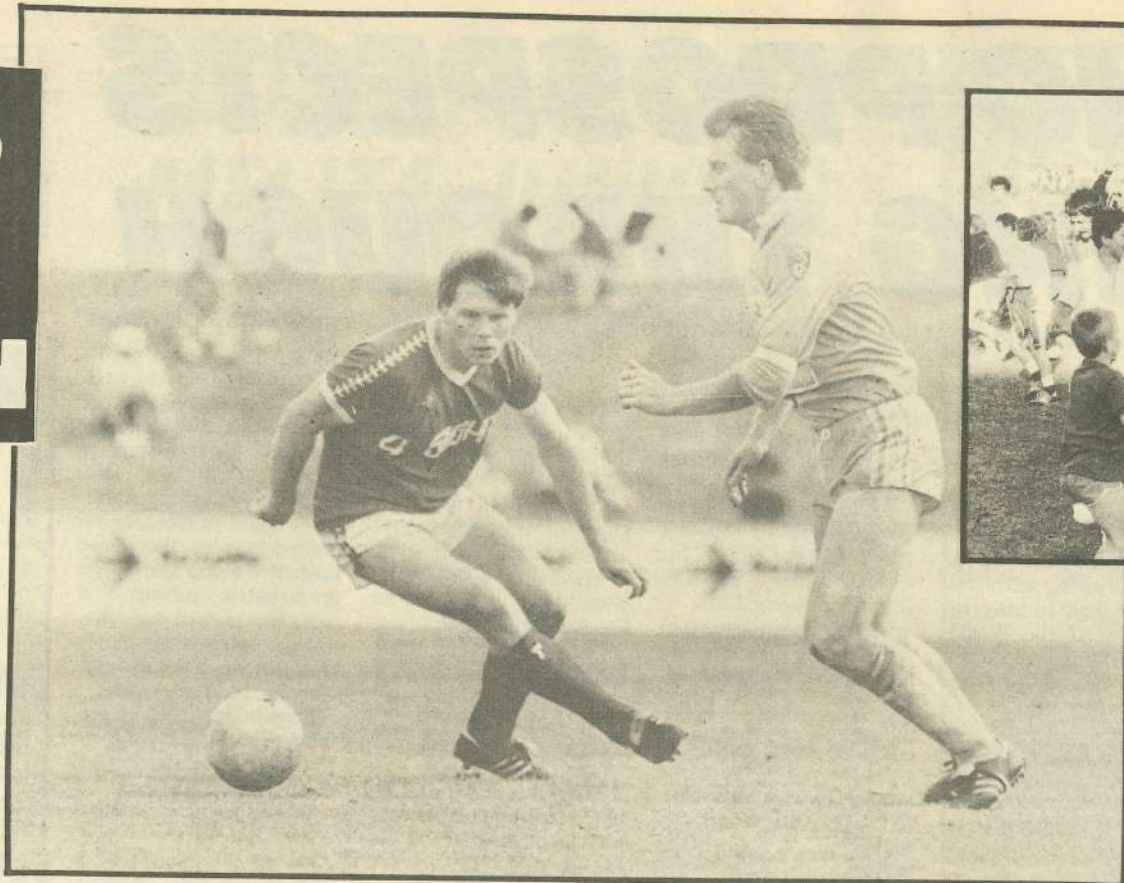
Whichever way it is, there is often a draw towards playing as a professional player overseas.

St George's young striker Robbie Slater arrived from England when he was a little chap.

At 19 he has played in Australia's National League Championship winning club. He successfully underwent a trial with highly-rated English club Nottingham Forest, but he had a year's contract still to go with Saints.

If all goes well, he will be here for the Australian season and then off to try to compete with full-time players in the rigours of the English winter.

Here is how it started, after St George Soccer Club had first contacted Forest to advise that Slater wished to try out for them.



□ LEFT: Slater in action.
ABOVE: Slater and Paul Wilkinson with young fans after St George won the title.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST
Football Club Ltd.



We shall be delighted to give free board and lodging to Robbie Slater in our Apprentice Hostel for a period of one month or longer by arrangement and he would be welcome to train with our second team.

We have ascertained that he will pay his own air fare, we will need to know the date and time of his arrival at London Airport when you would, no doubt, instruct him to travel by train to Nottingham. At Heathrow he will follow the signs marked "subway" and take a ticket to Kings Cross railway station as a train goes there directly.

We ask that we might have your written permission to sign him and play him in our second or third (youth) teams who play in the Central League and in the Midland Intermediate Leagues or as appropriate. We are not clear as to the requirements to enable him to sign for us but you will, no doubt, send with him a clearance certificate from your National Association.

It is, of course, understood that he is **your** player and that he will return to you at the end of this period unless, meantime, we make arrangements with you to the contrary. We have noted that he was born in England which means that he has no problems with regard to having a work permit here if this were ultimately necessary.

We are very pleased you thought of us, we hope that this experiment will be mutually satisfactory and that it will also benefit the player in which case we will all have made a useful contribution to this great game of ours.

We look forward to hearing further from you if there is any urgent matter to raise you will, of course, use your President's telex, I am sure he will want to help in this way. Please give him my very best wishes.

Signed — Geoffrey E. Macpherson, Chairman



A.C.T. ACADEMY PROGRESSING

BY BERNIE HARRIS

THE APPOINTMENT of a new executive director, the establishment of a new administrative controlling body and rationalisation of the selection process for representative teams — these are the major changes as the ACT Academy of Soccer enters its third year.

The aim of the Academy is to improve the standard of Soccer in the ACT by developing the skills and techniques of young players.

Cadets are given further insight into the game by being provided with the opportunity to attend specialised courses in refereeing and coaching.

The Academy caters for players in the Under 13, 14, 15 and 16 age-groups. Its first executive director, Dr Gianni D'Addario, resigned recently.

President of the ACT Soccer Federation, Mr Roger Grylls, has hailed the establishment of the Youth Management Control Committee as a major advance in the Academy's development.

The committee will have overall responsibility for the administration of the Academy and also the representative teams for the age-groups involved.

Interviews have been

conducted which will lead to the appointment of the new executive director of the Academy.

ASW understands that the appointee will be a person who has not been involved in ACT Soccer. Mr Grylls expressed the belief that the appointee would bring a fairly fresh approach to the task at hand.

Also to be announced are the new coaches for the various age-groups. They will be under the direction and guidance of the ACT director of coaching, Mr Les Bee, who during November held selection trials for entrants to the Under 13 group for this year.

Mr Grylls pointed out that one significant change in the representative football area was that the representative team coaches would be selected from the coaches who had applied for positions on the coaching staff of the Academy.

In future all representative teams would be trained within the programme and drawn from the Academy's youngsters.

This step would avoid the problem of previous years when rep players faced up to five days of training when the requirements of the Academy, the rep teams and local clubs, not to mention school teams, were met. This naturally caused problems in study programmes and upset parents.

There will be up to 200 players attending the Academy this year and the cost of the operation will be approximately \$60,000.

The proponents of the Academy defend it from allegations of elitism. Indeed, many wise Soccer heads laud the early training of potential Soccerers and the devotion to the task demonstrated by Les Bee.

YOUNG people need to be linked in more with the senior Soccer clubs.

This was clearly emphasised at the Super Challenge Cup games at St George Stadium.

Hundreds of youngsters took to the field to congratulate their heroes when goals were scored in the opening rounds.

Throughout Soccer history in Australia insufficient has been done in this regard.

In time there will have to be a liaison between the amateur and school-boy ranks to ensure that too much junior football does not cut across attendances at major club games.

That is not to say that there must be stupid regimentation of juniors. What is needed is some rationalisation to achieve a common goal.

There must be huge numbers of players, specialised coaching for the cream of the youngsters, and a well-managed link between the senior clubs and the juniors and schoolboys.

National and State League clubs too often are concentrating on attracting limited groups of patrons.

To an extent this is very good; from there on there must be more careful planning in this vital area of Soccer's future.

NEPEAN APPOINT COACHING DIRECTOR

CHRIS BELL has been appointed director of coaching for the Nepean District Soccer Football Association.

Bell has been secretary of the NSW Coaches' Federation, which operates in close conjunction with the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation.

The NDSFA and its member clubs are cooperating with Penrith City officials with promotional activities to be staged by the new NSL club this year.



KU-RING-GAI 1983 U13 REP TEAM

BACK ROW: Michael Tycho, Tim Glasby, Grant Morrow, Hiro Kobayashi, Pat Italiano.

CENTRE ROW: Harry Tsioukannis (coach), Simon Heading, Kei Hirosaki, Dylan Robertson, Andrew Ward, Mark Duncan, John Morrow (manager).

FRONT ROW: Paul Crawford, Tim Rees, Myles Buckley, Nick Archer.

YOUNG PROSPECTS COMING THROUGH

MANY outstanding prospects will come from the Australian team which won the Oceania Youth Championship in Auckland in December.

All players had to be under 16, born after August 1, 1968. This age grouping conformed with the requirements of FIFA had they decided to proceed with a World Cup for Under 16 players this year.

The series has been delayed a year, and indeed entry into the tournament will be by invitation.

The winner of Oceania must merit consideration and all will not be lost by putting the commencement date back.

Coach Vic Dalglish fielded a majority of play-

ers who were in fact under 14, with some under 16s.

It was a bold move which was rewarded with success as Australia won each of its five matches.

Dalglish gave up a deal by sticking with the boys. He had to stay in readiness if the World Under 16 Cup went on, so chances of taking over senior clubs were lost.

Former coach of Melita Eagles and Auburn, Dalglish would be glad of the chance to handle a National League or State League club if the opportunity arrives.

Dalglish told me: "I believe I can take on and do well with any team. I never give anything but my best."

As it stands he will be in Canberra in the last week in February for special courses for the O'Connor Soccer Club.

In the Oceania tournament, the Australian team scored seven second-half goals to down Tahiti 9-0.

In the New Caledonia game, won 4-0, their fine winger Patrick was snuffed out and Australia ended up very much the victors.

Fiji was accounted for next 4-1, in a match played in torrential rain with the wind running diagonally across field.

Then came the toughest game of the series, and although China Taipei (Taiwan) lost 0-3, they were tactically as good as the Australian side.

This was their last game and they threw everything in, playing what could well be described as "Kamikaze" football.

Dalglish said that they had a midfield player who had to be seen to be believed.

He showed out so well that Tahiti signed him on a very lucrative contract and paid his fare to play there!

China Taipei ringed their goal with eight defenders plus the goalkeeper, leaving two players to battle up-front.

Navin picked up the danger player for Australia in the 3-0 win, and New Zealand came next.

Barrie Trueman had a whole staff of coaches working to defeat the Australians.

Radio message came out that "Australia was good on set pieces and corners but New Zealand knows their moves."

Dalglish learnt that Kiwi referees somehow believe that dummy runs are not to be countenanced, so he cut this out of Australia's play.

The final score was 2-1 Australia's way, and the Cup went to Dalglish and his young men.

One of the most remarkable prospects in the Australian team was striker Paul Trimboli, who netted nine of the 22 goals.

Although he attends a school where he is restricted to playing hockey and basketball, his feeling for Soccer is simply remarkable.

Robert Runje, whose cousin is in this year's intake at the Australian Institute of Sport, is a definite success as sweeper or midfielder.

He has the ability to play in very cool fashion and can break defences going forward.

Newcastle's David Aranyi has a tremendous workrate. This is combined with skill at high speed that never allows opposition defences the time to settle.

Somehow he can come from 25 metres behind play and catch the man that could do the damage.

Conrad Nobile in goal is confident that the high balls are always his. His reflexes are excellent and he saved an unbelievable penalty.

The Lismore midfielder and allrounder Craig Foster proved himself so strong that no opponent could hold him.

Dalglish is very much indebted, he says, to the people who came to his aid in preparing the players.

Bobby Goodwin, the ACT Under 14 coach, belongs to the huge Belconnen club. He gave some support in Brisbane and then paid his own expenses to be assistant coach in New Zealand.

Goodwin, Johnny Haynes, Vince Balzan and Victorian Alan Alexander all assisted at the weekend camp prior to leaving on tour.

NSW staff coach Micky Evans also helped for two days, whilst the specialised goalkeeping was attended to by Ron Gisbourne.

OCEANIA JUNIOR CUP

v Tahiti 9-0 (Trimboli 4, Catalano 0 2, Talagich, Thodis, Aranyi).
v New Caledonia 4-0 (Trimboli 2, Barrett, Catalano).
v Fiji 4-1 (Thodis 2, Trimboli, Aranyi).
v China Taipei 3-0 (Trimboli 2, Foster).
v New Zealand 2-1 (Aranyi, Foster).

ALL THE SCORERS: Trimboli 9, Aranyi 3, Catalano 3, Thodis 3, Foster 2, Barrett 1, Talagich 1.

INSURANCE SCHEME IS TOPS

BY BRAD EARL

THE INTRODUCTION of a comprehensive insurance scheme to cover all players and officials under the jurisdiction of the New South Wales Amateur Soccer Federation is a major breakthrough.

That is the claim of NSWASF officials, who negotiated the policy with one of Australia's leading insurance companies, QBE Insurances Ltd.

In the past, insurance cover has been the responsibility of individual clubs or associations, and many simply did not bother to insure their members.

The insurance scheme is in two parts — personal accident insurance to cover junior and senior players and public liability cover for club, association and NSWASF officials.

Players are being levied at a cost of \$1 per junior player and \$9 per player from U18 up (or younger if the player is working and is to be covered by the loss of wages cover).

The cover includes:

For all players:

- Death or permanent total disablement — seniors \$30,000, juniors \$5,000.
- Medical expenses — limited to the amount NOT RECOVERED from Medicare or private health insurance. Claims can be made after the first \$25, with \$1,000 maximum on any one claim. This does not include physiotherapy.

For seniors only:

- Temporary total disablement (loss of wages) — after the first two weeks, a player can claim \$150 per week or 75 percent of his wage (whichever is lesser) for a maximum of 52 weeks.

For juniors only:

- Hospital confinement — after the first three days, \$15 a day is claimable, with a \$1,000 maximum. This compensates travelling costs, etc, for parents.

For students to 20 years:

- Student allowance — \$100 per week for a maximum of 52 weeks. This is to cover the costs of home tutoring or special travel arrangements to enable students to continue with their study in case of injury.

The insurance covers all registered players in competition matches, approved trial matches and organised team training.

However, a player is NOT covered until he has been registered with the association.

For claims, clubs will be issued with claim forms which must be filled in by a player.

This must then be sent by the club to their association registrar, who will verify the player's registration.

It has been brought to my attention that, for unemployed senior players, there is little benefit to them for the \$9 they must pay.

Terry Coates, a junior vice-president with the NSWASF, explained that if an unemployed player was injured, he or she may not be able to accept employment and would cease to receive the unemployment benefit.

In that situation, the player is entitled to the loss of wages cover.

"And just because a player is unemployed today may not mean that he is unemployed at the time when he is injured playing Soccer," Mr Coates added.

The insurance policy also provides public liability cover for officials.

Committee officials, coaches, managers and ground marshalls, and in limited cases, players are covered for any action brought against them for negligence.

AUSTRALIA'S U15 INTERNATIONALS



DAVID BARRETT

CLUB:

ASSOCIATION or ZONE: Canterbury Assn.

POSITIONS PLAYED: Midfield or stopper.

NUMBER OF YEARS PLAYED: 10.

OTHER SPORTS: Cricket, Water Polo, Sailing.

FAVOURITE AUSTRALIAN PLAYER: John Kosmina or Joe Watson.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYER: Kenny Dalglish.

REPRESENTATIVE RECORD: NSW U13, U14.

AMBITION: To attend the Institute of Sport in Canberra, while studying. Hopefully to gain a trial with an overseas team (preferably England).



MATTHEW NICHOLSON

CLUB: Cardiff.

ASSOCIATION or ZONE: Macquarie.

POSITIONS PLAYED: Midfield, full-back, stopper.

NUMBER OF YEARS PLAYED: 9.

OTHER SPORTS: Cricket, Touch Football, Squash.

FAVOURITE AUSTRALIAN PLAYER: Howard Tredinick.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYER: Socrates (Brazil).

REPRESENTATIVE RECORD: Macquarie from U9 to U15 (captain), NNSW U13 to U15 (vice-captain), Tasman Cup with High School Warners Bay.

AMBITION: To play NSL and represent Australia in a World Cup Tournament.



GAVIN PARRY

CLUB: Lake Macquarie.

ASSOCIATION or ZONE: Northern NSW — Macquarie.

POSITIONS PLAYED: Defence.

NUMBER OF YEARS PLAYED: 9.

OTHER SPORTS: Sailing and Cricket.

FAVOURITE AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS: Howard Tredinick.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYERS: Terry Butcher.

REPRESENTATIVE RECORD: 1978-79, 80-82-83

Macquarie Assn, 1982-83 NNSW State.

AMBITION: To play for Australia at Wembley Stadium.

MICHAEL GRAHAM

CLUB: WallSEND.

ASSOCIATION or ZONE: Northern NSW.

POSITIONS PLAYED: Stopper, sweeper, midfield.

NUMBER OF YEARS PLAYED: 10.

OTHER SPORTS: Swimming, Weights, Cricket, Surfing.

FAVOURITE AUSTRALIAN PLAYER: Joe Senkalski.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYER: Eder, Maradona.

REPRESENTATIVE RECORD: PSSA/NSW 2yrs, AB Grade Newcastle 4yrs, NNSW 2yrs, Hunter Region 2yrs.

AMBITION: Play in the World Cup for Australia.

CORRADO NOBILE

CLUB: Knox City.

ASSOCIATION or ZONE: Eastern.

POSITIONS PLAYED: Goalkeeper.

NUMBER OF YEARS PLAYED: 7.

OTHER SPORTS: Basketball.

FAVOURITE AUSTRALIAN PLAYERS: Dennis Boland.

FAVOURITE OVERSEAS PLAYERS: Dino Zoff.

REPRESENTATIVE RECORD: Eastern Regional U13, 14, 15 and Victorian U14, 15.

AMBITION: My first ambition is to play for Australia in the U16 World Cup and the senior World Cup.

NEXT WEEK...

An announcement of a new feature to interest all Soccer youngsters - only in AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY!

An exciting new concept every week!

WANTED: WHISTLERS AT ALBURY

REFEREES are desperately needed by the Albury-Wodonga Referees' Association.

"We just managed to cope with the shortage of referees last season," the president of the association Mr John Milton said.

"This year we have lost the services of two first class referees, which will make our commitments very hard to carry out," he said.

Mr Milton said that because some matches will clash there will be serious problems with the very small number of referees

during the 1984 season.

Because of the present situation the association has introduced a new grading system.

Mr Milton said as soon as he has enough candidates a special course would start to increase the number of referees.

He said anybody over the age of 14 could apply.

Mr Milton said anybody interested should ring Mr Frank Finlay on 21 6565 after 6pm.

KEEN youth coach Ian Lloyd has vowed to take Melita Eagles Under 13 team to the top of the 1984 NSW Youth League.

Lloyd took over the team when he lost out in a ballot for a position as a NSW coach for the 1984 Australian Championships.

He applied for the Under 14 position after having being the only successful NSW coach in the 1983 titles.

His team won the championship in Alice Springs.

As a teacher at Miller Technical College at Hox-

ton Park, he is in a position to handle the training sessions and camps required.

Losing out in the ballot under these circumstances leaves Lloyd taking it on the chin, even though his rueful grin told its story.

In 1982 he took Southern Districts U13 boys to the NSW Youth League title, with a marvellous record of being undefeated over 27 matches.

Prior to that he handled a State champion Under 14 team in his original district of Bankstown.

WHOOOPS, DEARIE!



READER Jim Norwood took time to send us this magnificent shot of the winning team in Nepean Police Boys 'Battle of the Sexes'. A great time was had by all, and there was no shortage of players volunteering to dress up in drag. He says: "The game ended with a 3-2 win to the men (or was it the ladies). Anyway, it was the ugly team that won."

BALL IS ROLLING FOR . . . THE 1984 TURNER CUP

WITH the first week of school just completed, it's time to think of the school competitions ahead in New South Wales.

If you are under 15 years of age (that is, do not turn 16 in 1984), play Soccer, attend either a Government, Private, or Catholic school, and are keen on knockout competition, you will be interested to know that we are now calling for entries to the 1984 Turner Cup.

In 1983 we had 244 participating high schools throughout the State, 25 more than the previous years.

The climax of the year was the final, which was keenly fought out between Cessnock and Keira High Schools, with Cessnock running out worthy champions 2-0.

This year Barry Kemp (Kurri Kurri HS), our State co-ordinator, and Terry Hampton (Wallsend HS), the Newcastle Region co-ordinator, have swapped peaces.

To Barry, on behalf of all the players and coaches, thank-you for all your time and effort, and to Terry, welcome, and we look forward to an exciting year.

The Sydney Region will again be run by Phil Hare (Muirfield HS) and John Moscovis (Epping BHS).

Here's how you can enter.

If you live in the country ring: Terry Hampton

at Wallsend HS (049) 511 811, or at home on (049) 59 1966.

Terry will then be able to tell you which region co-ordinator to contact.

Remember, your region co-ordinator is the ONLY person to which ALL entries shown below are to be lodged.

If you live in Sydney,

send this entry to:

JOHN MOSCOVIS,
C/- EPPING BOYS'
HIGH SCHOOL,
VIMIERA RD,
EASTWOOD 2122.

ENTRY FORM 1984 TURNER CUP

The Sydney closing date is Wednesday, March 14. The local co-ordinator will advise the date in other regions.

School:

Address:

Phone:

Coach

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

Home Phone:

Manager:

FIRST NAME

SURNAME

Home Phone:

Colours: Shirt:

Shorts:

Socks:

Home Ground:

Principal's Signature:

Date:

U13 MINI AMPOL CUP AT PARKLEA

ROUNDS 1 AND 2

GROUP A:
St George v Manly 6-0
Syd Olympic v Gladesville 3-1
Blacktown Assn bye

GROUP B:
Illawarra v Marconi 2-0
Melita v Macarthur 6-0
Croatia bye

GROUP C:
Bankstown v Granville 0-7
Southern Dists v Blacktown City 2-2
Sutherland v Auburn 8-2

GROUP D:
APIA v Canterbury-M'ville 2-1
Avala v Baulkham Hills 1-3
Nth Bankstown v Ku-ring-gai 3-1

GROUP A:

St George v Gladesville 2-1
Syd Olympic v Blacktown Assn 10-0
Manly bye

GROUP B:
Illawarra v Macarthur 3-3
Melita bye

GROUP C:

Bankstown v Blacktown City 1-2
Southern Districts v Auburn 3-4
Sutherland v Granville 3-1
GROUP D:
APIA v Baulkham Hills 3-4
Avala v Ku-ring-gai 4-0
Nth Bankstown v Canterbury-M'ville 1-2

ROUNDS 3 & 4 — SUNDAY FEB 13

GROUND 1

9am Gladesville, bye
10.10 Illawarra, bye

11.20 Bankstown v Auburn
12.30 APIA v Ku-ring-gai
1.40 Sydney Oly, bye

2.50 Illawarra v Croatia
4.00 S'land v B'stown

5.10 APIA v North Bankstown

GROUND 2

St George v Manly
Melita v Croatia

Southern Dists v Sutherland
Avala v North Bankstown
St George v Blacktown Assn
Melita v Marconi

Southern Dists v Granville
Avala v Cant-Marr

GROUND 3

Syd Olympic v Blacktown Assn
Macarthur v Marconi

Blacktown City v Granville
Baulkham Hills v Cant-Marr
Gladesville v Manly

Macarthur, bye
Auburn v Bankstown City
Ku-ring-gai v Baulkham Hills

ADVERTISING WITH ASW

For all your Club's needs, playing staff, coaches, functions, special matches, it pays to advertise with ASW.

Contact our John Economos, 660 7538 or 660 2033.

TOMMY McCULLOCH'S EXPERIENCES



LAST season Mrs Vivienne Jones of Wahroonga Soccer Club provided us with news of Marconi's Youth Socceroo captain Tommy McCulloch putting some of their teams through their paces at training.

The occasion was the sixth annual pie night for fathers and sons, and Tommy certainly made them "sing for their supper" before disposing of the goodies.

Mrs Jones said that guests received a very thorough and entertaining talk on the World Youth Cup in Mexico, as well as details of Tommy's career in Soccer to date.

Presentations were made to players with 100 and 200 appearances with Wahroonga club.

Then Under 12 player Steve Morton distinguished himself by winning the raffle for a Tango World Cup Soccer ball.

Tommy has spent a few months with highly rated English First Division club Southampton.

VANCOUVER CAN'T AFFORD THIS TOP DUTCHMAN

FRANS THIJSEN, the brilliant Dutch midfielder, is unlikely to return to Canada to play for Vancouver Whitecaps in the North American Soccer League.

Thijssen is playing for Nottingham Forest in the English first division and has had several confrontations with manager Brian Clough.

"My return to Vancouver at the beginning of May is doubtful," said the Dutchman. "The club president says there is no money to take me back

there so I shall probably stay with Forest."

This raises the prospect of Thijssen gaining another UEFA Cup winners medal because he is

eligible to play for Forest even though the competition has reached the quarter finals stage.

Much will depend on Thijssen and Clough re-

maining on friendly terms.

Since joining Forest, Thijssen has played only 10 games and has been substituted in six of them.



□ FRANS THIJSEN

HOMELAND IS CALLING JOL

DUTCHMAN Martin Jol would like to get out of English football and return to his own country.

The West Brom import is convinced he is being victimised by referees who have given him a reputation as a hard man.

He has many bookings to his name and was sent off at Luton just before Christmas.

"Maybe I go back to Holland at the end of the season," said Jol after yet another caution in the game against West Ham.

JAPAN DOES WELL

BRAZILIAN club, Corinthians, champions of Sao Paulo, did not find things easy on their Japanese tour.

They played Japan's national team three times in Kobe, Nagoya and Tokyo, winning 2-1 in Kobe and 3-2 in Tokyo, but suffered a surprise 2-1 defeat in the other game.

World Cup forward Socrates was Corinthians' star.

IN case you didn't know, the very popular FIFA Coca-Cola Youth Cup venues for 1985 and 1987 have been allocated.

Chile will have the honour next year and two years later, Russia will be the host nation.



SINGAPORE's Football Association has suspended six players, each for six years.

The players are Salim Moin, Syed Ismail, Joseph Tan Kim Oi, Azhar Mahar, Subhasu Kesavan and Abdul Razak Khamid.

Their offence? Assaulting a referee.

ITALIANS STILL BIG SPENDERS OF EUROPE

ITALIAN clubs are gluttons for punishment when they go into the transfer market in Britain.

Several top British stars have failed in Italy, including internationals Luther Blissett and Joe Jordan — but the Italians are still keen to buy British.

They have their eyes right now on two internationals, England's Bryan Robson and Scotland's Paul McStay.

Inter Milan want

McStay and are ready to bid more than \$3,000,000 to get him, while Sampdoria will pay double that figure to lure Robson from Manchester United.

Of course, Welshman John Charles was a huge success when he moved to Juventus from Leeds United — but that was a very long time ago.



BRAZIL SO BRILLIANT

GRAEME SOUNESS, captain of Liverpool, said in an interview that Brazil's team in the World Cup in Spain was out of this world.

"I've never seen anything like the way they played," said Souness and he added, "they were even better than Liverpool!"

It will always remain a mystery how that fabulous Brazilian side failed to win the World Cup.

STAY HOME

THE huge exodus of top Brazilian players which followed the 1982 World Cup has ended.

The Brazilian Football Federation has imposed a ban on all transfers to foreign clubs during 1984 and 1985.

It seems Falcao, Zico and the other wizards quit Brazil at the right time.

They would not get away now — regardless of what money was paid by the millionaires in Italy.

PHANTOM TEAM IN HUNGARY

HUNGARY used to represent all that is best in European Soccer but too often these days, the Hungarians make the wrong sort of headlines.

Take the case of the youth team of Nak, a village in the south of the country.

This team had apparently lost every match this season by the same score, 3-0.

Then the Football Association made some enquiries and discovered the team didn't exist.

According to a report from Budapest, there is a rule which forces every club team to have a youth side if it wants to compete in top competitions.

So the phantom Nak youth XI entered a league. It could not play in any matches because it did not exist — and opposing teams were regularly awarded a 3-0 victory on default!

Now the Hungarian Association has expelled the non-existent team.

OVERSEAS RESULTS

WEST GERMANY					PORTUGUESE				
Mannheim v Stuttgart	2-2	Roda JC v DS '79	2-1		Benfica v Setubal	1-0			
Uerdingen v Hamburg	3-1	Az 67 v Willem II	4-0		Sa'ros v Porto	0-0			
Leverkusen v Ein Furt	2-2	Ajax v Volendam	5-0		Penafiel v Sporting	1-2			
Bielefeld v FC Nuremberg	1-0	Groningen v Helmond Sp	5-3		Varzim v Guimaraes	1-1			
Offenbach v FC Cologne	2-0	Haarlem v F Sittard	1-0		Braga v Rio Ave	2-0			
Werder v M'gladbach	2-0	Feyenoord v Den Bosch	1-1		Agueda v Estoril	1-1			
Brunswick v Bochum	3-1				Farense P'monense	0-0			
Dortmund v K'lautern	1-0				Boavista v Espinho	0-0			
For D'dorf v Bayern Munich	4-1								
GREECE					SPAIN				
Stuttgart	11 6 3 43 19 28	P'naikos v Doxa	2-0		Valencia v Malaga	1-1			
Bayern	12 4 4 39 21 28	Ap Athens v Iraklis	0-0		Sociedad v Betis	1-0			
Werder	11 5 4 44 20 27	Aris v Yannina	2-1		Cadiz v Real Madrid	2-3			
Hamburg	11 4 5 40 24 26	O'piakos v Paok	1-0		Zaragoza v V'dolid	1-1			
Duesseldorf	10 5 4 47 24 25	Aek v Ap K'marias	3-3		Salamanca v Sporting	0-1			
M'gl'bach	10 5 5 40 29 25	Panionios v Ethnikos	0-1		Barcelona v Murcia	2-0			
FRANCE									
Brest v Rennes	1-1	Larisa v Ofi	2-0		At Madrid v Bilbao	1-0			
Metz v Lille	1-0	P'raikos v Egaleo	2-1		Sevilla v Mallorca	0-0			
Monaco v Paris S6	0-1				Osasuna v Espanol	0-0			
Rouen v Bordeaux	1-0								
Toulouse v Nancy	1-0								
Nantes v Sochaux	1-1								
Laval v Nimes	1-0								
Lens v S'bourg	2-2								
Toulon v Bastia	1-0								
St Etienne v Auxerre	0-0								
BELGIUM									
Bordeaux	17 4 5 51 24 38	Ce Bruges v Molenbeek	2-0						
Monaco	15 5 6 42 22 35	Lokeren v Waregem	1-0						
Paris SG	13 8 5 41 25 34	Ghent v Seraing	1-2						
Nantes	14 6 6 31 18 34	Courtrai v Cl Bruges	0-1						
HOLLAND									
PSV v Utrecht	3-3	Anderlecht v Beveren	2-2						
GA Eagles v Pec Zwolle	2-0	Beerschot v Beringen	4-0						
Ex Rotterdam v Sp Rotterdam	2-1	Lierse v Malines	1-3						
		Liegeois v Antwerp	1-3						
		W'schei v Standard	0-2						

RAY WILKINS UNITED HERO

MANCHESTER UNITED were ready to part with Ray Wilkins not so long ago but they must be delighted he didn't go.

Some Old Trafford fans were not impressed by Wilkins and were loud in their criticism of him.

Wilkins answered them by turning in a string of brilliant performances.

One English newspaper reported last week: "Wilkins is the one man who deserves a medal — whether United win the first division title or not."

His midfield partner and the man who took the captaincy off him, Bryan Robson, commented: "Ray is playing particularly well at the moment and played an important part in the win over Southampton, a vital match for us."



RAY WILKINS



THE brilliant Peter Barnes (pictured left), who has frequently disappointed his many admirers in a career with Manchester City, West Brom, Leeds United and England's international team, is ready for another move. Barnes has asked Leeds to give him a transfer.

TOP SCORERS

DIVISION ONE
30 — Ian Rush (L'pool)
19 — Steve Archibald (T'ham)
16 — Peter Withe (Villa), Trevor Christie (Notts Co.)
15 — Tony Woodcock (Arsenal), Frank Stapleton (Man Utd.)
14 — Simon Stainrod (QPR), Terry Gibson (Cov), Dave Swindlehurst (West Ham).

DIVISION TWO
23 — Kerry Dixon (Chelsea)
18 — Kevin Keegan (Newc.)
17 — Simon Garner (Blackburn), Derek Parlane (Man City), Tommy Quinn (Oldham).



DAVID JOHNSON, formerly with Liverpool and Ipswich Town, has been given a free transfer by Everton.

STAY HOME MESSAGE TO FANS

MANCHESTER UNITED, believe it or not, are hoping they do not have support from their fans when they play Barcelona in the Cup Winners Cup in the Camp Nou stadium on March 7.

Unruly British spectators who misbehave in Spain usually get treated very roughly.

Martin Edwards, United's chairman, stated: "We could not guarantee the safety of any supporters who travel to Barcelona for the match."

MAN UNITED TAKEOVER BATTLE

A BEHIND-the-scenes battle for control of Manchester United is expected as two men move in to buy up shares.

No definite bids have been made, with the Edwards family, which has controlled Manchester United for the past 25 years, holding almost three-quarters of the total shares.

Martin Edwards is the club's chief executive. The men who may launch takeover bids are publishing magnate Robert Maxwell and United director Jimmy Gulliver.

As ASW reported last week, Maxwell, chairman of Oxford United — the club that knocked Manchester United out of the Milk Cup — was initially interested in Birmingham City.

But now it seems he has turned his sights to Manchester.

Control of United has been estimated at costing anything from \$15.6 to \$23.5 million.



DEATH OF A GUNNER

TIM COLEMAN, a member of Arsenal's great side of the early 1930's, died in a Nottingham hospital at the age of 76.

Coleman cost Arsenal \$18,000 when they bought him from Grimsby Town, a huge transfer fee in those days.

Old-timers may recall Coleman was one of several very expensive centre-forwards taken to Highbury to solve a front-line problem, but the position wasn't filled satisfactorily until Ted Drake was signed from Southampton.

IAN RUSH HAS NO SECRET

IAN RUSH is the goalscoring sensation of the first division but nobody knows how or why the Welsh striker scores so consistently.

His manager at Liverpool, Joe Fagan, asked about Rush's scoring secret, said: "I don't know — nobody knows. Call it instinct if you like but nobody can give a lad a gift like his. There is no special coaching — it's something Ian has but others don't have."

Then Fagan took a swipe at the coaching system when he added: "It's also something that the wrong sort of tuition can take away."

UK SOCCER TABLES

ENGLISH DIVISION ONE												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
Liverpool	26	15	7	4	43	19	52					
Man United	25	13	8	4	44	27	47					
West Ham	25	14	4	7	41	24	46					
Notts Forest	25	14	4	7	47	31	46					
QPR	24	13	3	8	42	22	42					
Southampton	25	12	6	7	29	22	42					
Luton	25	12	3	10	41	36	39					
Coventry	25	10	8	7	34	31	38					
Aston Villa	25	10	7	8	37	38	37					
Norwich	26	9	9	8	37	38	36					
Arsenal	26	10	4	12	41	37	34					
Watford	26	10	4	12	43	45	34					
Tottenham	25	9	7	9	40	42	34					
Everton	25	9	7	9	20	26	34					
Ipswich	25	9	5	11	36	34	32					
Sunderland	24	8	7	9	25	32	31					
West Brom	25	9	3	13	29	39	30					
Leicester	26	7	8	11	40	46	29					
Birmingham	25	8	4	13	25	31	28					
Notts County	25	5	5	15	33	52	20					
Stoke	26	4	8	14	22	47	20					
Wolves	25	4	5	16	21	53	17					

ENGLISH DIVISION TWO												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
Chelsea	28	15	9	4	59	32	54					
Sheff Wed	26	15	7	4	49	24	52					
Man City	25	14	6	6	44	28	48					
Newcastle	25	15	7	1	36	36	48					
Grimsby	26	12	10	4	38	27	46					
Blackburn	26	12	10	4	35	30	46					
Charlton	27	13	7	7	37	33	46					
Carlisle	26	12	9	5	31	19	45					
Huddersfield	26	10	9	7	37	34	39					
Brighton	26	9	6	11	41	40	33					
Portsmouth	26	9	5	12	42	36	32					
Middlesbrough	26	8	8	12	28	32	32					
Cardiff	25	10	2	13	37	34	32					
Shrewsbury	25	8	8	9	30	34	32					
Leeds	24	8	6	10	33	35	30					
Barnsley	25	8	5	12	36	36	29					
Crystal Palace	25	8	5	12	27	33	29					
Oldham	26	8	5	13	29	45	29					
Fulham	25	5	8	12	27	37	23					
Derby	26	6	5	15	23	49	23					
Swansea	25	3	5	17	22	50	14					
Cambridge	26	2	8	16	20	49	14					

ENGLISH DIVISION THREE												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
Walsall	28	16	6	6	44	34	54					
Wimbledon	27	16	3	8	67	51	50					
Oxford	25	15	5	5	53	33	50					
Hull	25	13	9	3	39	19	48					
Sheff United	27	13	8	6	52	32	47					
Tranmere Rovers	27	14	5	8	42	33	47					
Barnet	25	12	7	8	38	30	43					
Bolton	25	11	8	6	39	28	41					
Orient	28	12	5	11	39	42	41					
Gillingham	23	12	3	8	44	38	39					
Bradford	25	11	5	9	49	41	38					
Lincoln	27	11	5	11	37	38	38					
Millwall	27	10	7	10	44	48	37					
Newport	24	7	10	8	33	42	37					
Plymouth	25	7	10	12	32	28	37					
Wigan	26	7	7	11	36	38	28					
Freston	26	7	6	13	39	36	27					
Southend	26	6	8	12	35	46	26					
Bournemouth	26	7	5	14	33	47	26					

ENGLISH DIVISION FOUR												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
York	26	17	4	5	55	27	55					
Doncaster	27	14	9	4	50	33	51					
Bristol City	27	15	4	8	45	25	49					
Reading	28	12	9	7	57	42	45					
Blackpool	26	14	3	9	36	25	45					
Aldershot	28	13	6	9	40	42	45					
Colchester	25	12	8	5	46	24	44					
Peterborough	27	11	7	9	42	40	40					
Stockport	29	11	7	11	42	42	40					
Northampton	26	10	9	7	31	27	39					
Crewe	26	11	6	9	32	36	39					
Bury	26	10	7	9	40	34	37					
Tranmere	26	9	9	8	33	30	36					
Chesterfield	28	8	12	8	32	36	36					
Torquay	28	9	9	10	37	44	36					
Swindon	26	8	8	10	37	35	32					
Hull City	27	7	10	10	26	39	31					
Wrexham	26	6	10	10	32	36	28					
Darlington	25	8	4	13	21	27	28					
Rochdale	26	6	9	11	36	49	27					
Hereford	27	6	9	12	21	36	27					
Mansfield	26	6	14	33	50	24						
Hartlepool	26	4	16	22	50	18						
Chester	25	2	9	15	22	49	15					

SCOTTISH PREMIER DIVISION												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
Aberdeen	21	16	3	2	53	12	35					
Celtic	21	12	5	4	46	23	29					
Dundee United	19	11	4	4	36	18	26					
Rangers	22	10	4	8	33	28	24					
Hearts	21	7	7	7	23	29	21					
St Mirren	21	5	10	6	29	31	20					
Hibernian	21	8	3	10	29	34	19					
Dundee	20	7	2	11	29	39	16					
St Johnstone	22	5	1	16	20	57	11					
Motherwell	22	1	7	14	17	44	9					

SCOTTISH DIVISION ONE												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
Partick	24	15	3	6	44	29	33					
Dumbarton	24	13	6	5	42	30	32					
Morton	24	11	9	4	47	31	31					
Kilmarnock	25	13	2	10	42	32	28					
Clydebank	23	10	6	7	36	30	26					
Brechin	23	9	8	6	35	31	26					
Falkirk	23	11	3	9	32	33	25					
Clyde	24	8	7	9	34	29	23					
Ayr	25	6	10	9	38	40	22					
Airdrieonians	25	8	5	12	25	37	21					
Meadowbank	25	8	5	12	28	43	21					
Hamilton	24	5	9	10	24	30	19					
Raith	24	4	9	11	25	38	17					
Alloa	23	4	4	15	25	44	12					

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO												
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts					
Forfar	21	16	4	1	42	15	36					
Stirling	20	11	7	2	33	17	29					
Queen Of The Sts	23	12	5	6	32	20	29					
Arbroath	23	12	3	8	36	26	27					
East Fife	24	11	4	9	32	29	26					
Berwick	22	10	5	7	34	20	25					
Stranraer	23	8	7	8	30	30	23					
Stenhousemuir	21	9	7	5	25	26	23					

A WASTED JOURNEY

LIVERPOOL boss Joe Fagan made a special trip to watch Brighton at Carlisle just before Brighton's shock FA Cup win over Liverpool.

"I don't think he could have learned much about my team," said Brighton manager Chris Catlin after the Carlisle game.

The Cup result confirms it.



OUR story in last week's ASW that Birmingham City faced a takeover from wealthy publisher Robert Maxwell suggested Maxwell would have to bid big to gain control.

How big? Around \$4,000,000 at the latest costing.

U.S. FIRM WILL BACK ENGLAND

ENGLISH football, which is hitting rock bottom at international level, is to get a massive injection of cash to be spent on junior development.

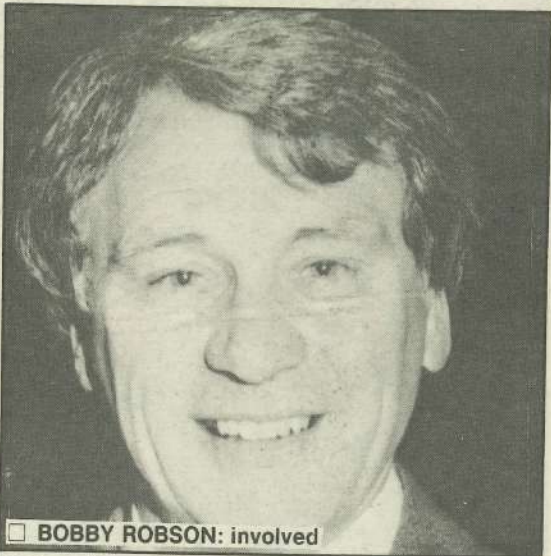
The money will come from General Motors and will not be less than \$1,500,000.

Basically, the plan is to take 30 promising boys to Lilleshall in the Midlands, where they will live and undergo intense coaching and training from the experts.

They will also do normal school work when they are not being coached.

The age group will be 14 and 15. After three years at Lilleshall, the youngsters will, in theory, have a magnificent grounding in the game and will be on the first step to playing international for England.

One of England's most respected coaches, Dave



BOBBY ROBSON: involved

Sexton, formerly boss of Manchester United, will

be in charge of the operation.

But England team manager Bobby Robson will also be heavily involved and Robson has already expressed the view that this is the sort of scheme he has dreamed about all his life.

Don Howe, the Arsenal manager, has no doubts about the value of this junior development scheme.

"It's the finest thing to happen in English football since we won the World Cup in 1966," said Howe.

Soccer's importance in England was emphasised when General Motors decided to back this plan with hard cash.

General Motors is an American company — and Soccer is hardly the leading game in the USA.

ONE MAN BAND AT CHARLTON

TOMMY DOCHERTY once said the ideal board of directors for a football club would be three men — two dead and one confined to his bed.

The Doc, surely, will be enjoying the situation at Charlton Athletic.

Charlton are making a bid for promotion to the first division and they have only one in the boardroom — chairman Mike Hulyer.

Due to all the financial hassles at Charlton in the past year or so, directors have been dropping off like flies after a whiff of Mortimer.

Hulyer is not worried about being the only man left.

After Charlton beat Cambridge 5-2, he said: "There's no need to bring anyone else into the boardroom — we've already got our act together. There



TOMMY DOCHERTY

would be more pressure if I had to consult people before making decisions."

The signing of Mike Flanagan from QPR was inspired by the one-man Charlton board ... so maybe Mike is right.

SENIOR PULLS IN PAISLEY

THE football career of centre-forward Trevor Senior is very much an up-and-down affair.

Last season, Senior couldn't even get a run in the Portsmouth first team so he was allowed to go on loan to Aldershot ...

hardly a move up the ladder!

Then Reading decided to buy him and, with that

club, Senior suddenly hit top form.

This season, Senior has hit 29 goals for Reading, causing several First Di-

vision clubs to send scouts to assess his talent.

Last week, Bobby Paisley, former Liverpool manager and now scouting for the Anfield club, made a special trip to watch Senior in action.

Liverpool are now thinking about paying a six-figure transfer fee to Reading for the player who couldn't get a run at Portsmouth!

Senior is described as an "old-fashioned centre-forward" and at 13 stone and 6 ft 2 ins, is ideally built for the job.

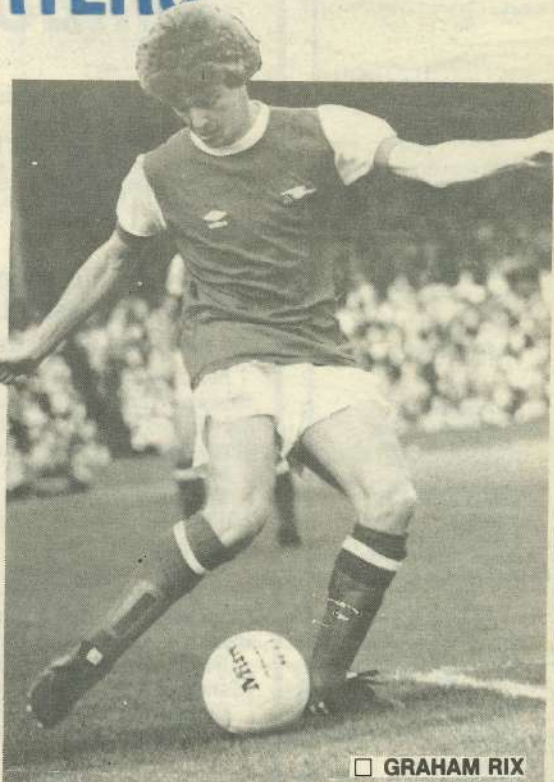
JEERS FROM ARSENAL'S SUPPORTERS

ARSENAL captain Graham Rix has appealed to the Highbury spectators.... "Give us a cheer — not a jeer."

The English international is sad and angry about the abuse his team is getting from its so-called supporters.

"We want the fans to get behind us when things go wrong," he said.

"When we play away from home, it's like a heavy load being lifted off our shoulders," added Rix.



GRAHAM RIX

OXFORD'S BIG MAC SIZZLES

ONE of the main reasons for Oxford's great surge towards promotion must be Scottish full-back Bobby McDonald.

Football has not always smiled on McDonald.

When he was at Manchester City — incidentally helping City to the Cup Final at Wembley — he was not always the pin-up boy of manager John Bond.

In fact Bond once said McDonald gave less value than the driver of the team's bus!

When Billy McNeill took over Manchester City from Bond, he decided to sack McDonald.

Oxford boss Jim Smith persuaded his chairman, Robert Maxwell, to sign McDonald even though Oxford were broke at the time.

Maxwell, in fact, paid McDonald's wages out of his own pocket ... and still does.

The money has been well spent.

Manchester City bought McDonald originally from Coventry City in a package deal which included another Scot, Tommy Hutchinson, for an outlay of \$600,000.

McDonald now looks back on an up-and-down career and says: "I admit I was out of line at Maine Road but was amazed when they said I could go.

I felt I'd let down everyone and it crossed my mind that I was finished in football."



JOHN BOND



KEEGAN A SAD STAR

NEWCASTLE UNITED invested a fortune in securing Kevin Keegan and stated bluntly that they had bought him for one reason ... to bring first

division football to Newcastle.

But promotion from the tough second division now seems a long way off.

After one recent defeat, Keegan himself was de-

spondent about the promotion bid.

"It's best not to say anything, but I have to admit we couldn't even contemplate promotion while we play like this. It was all

very depressing."

Another second division manager, Crystal Palace's Alan Mullery, admits to being a Newcastle fan but warns: "The team is very shaky at the back."